

THE TIMES

No. 65,668

MONDAY AUGUST 26 1996

10P
EVERY
SUMMER
MONDAY

THE TIMES GREAT SUMMER OF SPORT

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United fight back against resurgent Blackburn
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ARTE ET LABORE

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DAY ONE OF A NEW SERIES

UNDERSTANDING SIBLING SOCIETY
Order of the birth shapes rebellion
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10P
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Debate on Camilla's public role

Palace tackles dilemma of royal affair

BY ALAN HAMILTON
AND ANDREW PIERCE

THE Prince of Wales and Buckingham Palace will this week confront the issue of whether he should present Camilla Parker Bowles to a public largely hostile to his long-term friend.

The Queen, the Prince and other senior members of the Royal Family will discuss the dilemma at Balmoral as the Prince waits for his divorce to become final on Wednesday. They will consider what part Mrs Parker Bowles should play in a future in which the Prince is free of marital ties.

The public awareness of Mrs Parker Bowles was forced to the top of the Prince's agenda by publication yesterday of a photograph showing the couple walking with friends. The Palace is conducting a security investigation into how the location of the Prince's retreat in South Wales was leaked to the press.

Palace officials last night denied suggestions that the photograph in the *News of the World* showing the couple in the grounds of a house in the Brecon Beacons had been contrived as a photo-opportunity to win public acceptance of the Prince's long-standing relationship with Mrs Parker Bowles. The Palace added that it would never give approval for such intrusive photographs of the Prince and it was considering whether to approach the Press Complaints Commission.

The *News of the World* claimed that the exact time and location of the couple's meeting had been given to the newspaper in an anonymous telephone tip-off from a well-spoken woman. The photograph has caused serious security worries at the Palace. Only a handful of the Prince's closest advisers knew that he would be at the home of his old friends, Nick and Susi Paravichini in a remote part of Powys, near Brecon, last Sunday; they included his three royal protection officers, his



"We normally shoot in Scotland but we're becoming terribly fond of Wales"

butler and Commander Richard Aylard, his private secretary.

One royal source said yesterday: "There is no question that this picture was arranged by the Palace, or even by the Prince. Even if he wished to do such a thing, the *News of the World* would not be his chosen vehicle and the week of his divorce would not be his chosen time." Another said that the photograph would mean a complete review of royal security, coming as it did only a week after a leak to newspapers of some of the major constitutional issues currently being debated in private by senior members of the Royal Family.

Even though the picture appears to have been snapped in normal tabloid fashion, senior Tory MPs gave a warning to the Prince last night not to flaunt his friendship with Mrs Parker Bowles. Sir James Hill, chairman of the Commons Constitutional Committee, said: "To walk out in public together at this stage is tantamount to sticking two fingers up to public opinion, which is still behind the Princess of Wales."

But Lord Blake, the constitutional historian, believed that no harm would befall the monarchy if the couple began to be seen in public more

often. He said: "If they are gradually seen together it will mean an acknowledgement of a liaison which has been going on for a very long time. If they are to be married it will help the public to become accustomed to them being a couple. Their divorce is not a barrier; it is the concept of Queen Camilla which is the difficulty."

Lord Blake added: "It will take a long time for the public to become used to the idea. It should not be rushed. But gradually being seen together will gently start the process. Many people will be delighted if Prince Charles can find happiness in a new marriage."

At the time of Mrs Parker Bowles's own divorce, the Prince made it clear that he had no plans to marry her. Were he to change his mind, he would come up against the 1772 Royal Marriages Act, which would, in effect, require cabinet approval for him to wed. A Government which sensed public opposition could well decline to give its consent. Many backbench Tories are opposed even to the Prince conducting an unmarried relationship in public. David Evans, MP for Welwyn Hatfield and a staunch monarchist, said: "It is totally unacceptable for them to be seen together in public as a couple. They are both divorcees; it would be virtually flaunting his mistress."

"It will be goodbye to the Royal Family if this goes on. They have to behave like royalty, not like the rest of us. This man is due to be the next king; he has to behave like a king, not as if he is part of a tawdry soap opera."

Sir James Hill, MP for Southampton Test, added: "It will be fiercely resisted by the British people if he is to the throne and the woman who may have played a considerable part in the end of the royal marriage decide to conduct their friendship in public."

Divorce approaches, page 4



Kate Adie outside her home in Brentford, Middlesex, yesterday

Adie's Dunblane tone attacked

BY CAROLE MIDGLEY

THE veteran war correspondent Kate Adie was criticised yesterday for what she said was her inappropriate tone in reporting the Dunblane massacre.

Colin Cameron, head of television for BBC Scotland, said that Miss Adie, 50, had covered the shootings in which 16 children and their teacher died, as a distant world disaster rather than an appalling human tragedy in her own country. He said that Miss Adie, the BBC's award-winning chief news corres-

pondent, famous for her clipped style of speech, had reported the event with a "forensic precision" and a delivery that was unsuitable.

Speaking at the Edinburgh television festival, Mr Cameron cited Miss Adie's delivery as one of the things the BBC had got wrong during its coverage of the massacre carried out by Thomas Hamilton. The other mistake, he said, was broadcasting a tape of Hamilton's voice speaking on his telephone answering machine.

Mr Cameron said: "Kate brings, because of the nature of the work she has been

doing, a presence with her which turned the coverage from one of appalling tragedy to one of world disaster."

He added that the problem had been the tone of her voice, generally regarded as classic BBC received-pronunciation. "She is a fine journalist and it was nothing to do with the quality of her journalism; it was all in the tone," he said.

Miss Adie, whose report for BBC television news went out on the second day of the tragedy last March, won substantial libel damages from Express Newspapers over allegations that her coverage

Continued on page 2, col 1

Rescuers beat tide by minutes to save victim of quicksand

BY ADRIAN LEE

A MAN trapped overnight in quicksand on a tidal beach was saved after ten hours only minutes before his head was covered by water.

Yesterday Terry Howlett, 38, was recovering from shock and severe hypothermia as rescuers described how with high tide just six minutes away, they managed to hold his chin above the waves in the final seconds before he was pulled from the quicksand.

Mr Howlett's ordeal began when he went for a late night stroll along the sands of Morecambe Bay, at Warton, in Lancashire. He sank to his waist in clinging sand and his shouts for help went unheard.

Dressed in light, casual clothes, he spent a cold night stuck fast, before his cries were heard shortly before 7am yesterday by Anthony Gardner, a farmer, and his wife who were checking their sheep. The farmer then walked more than a mile — with PC Ian Nickson — to find Mr Howlett, who was freed after a 90-minute operation involving the fire and ambulance services, coastguards and police.

Firemen lay on a board and used specialist equipment to blast air beneath the trapped man and haul him free.

Mr Howlett, from Darlington, was airlifted to the Royal Lancaster Infirmary by a helicopter from RAF Valley on Anglesey. He was in a stable condition last night.

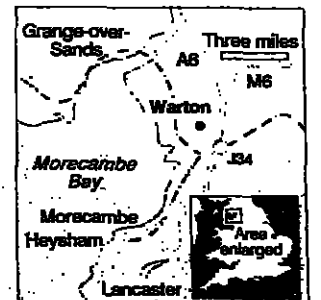
Ambulancewoman Sue Williamson described how she and a colleague, Tony Suett, clawed at the sand with their hands and kept water out of the man's mouth as the tide rushed in. Mr Howlett, who was facing seawards could see the water approaching.

Ms Williamson, 37, of the Lancashire Ambulance Trust,

said: "As fast as we were digging him out, the silt filled in again. We were kneeling in the water and tied ropes round his legs. As the tide came in he went very quiet. We were holding his chin up above the water and cracking jokes to keep his spirits up. We got him out just in time."

"I have spoken to him in hospital. He is hoarse from shouting and rather embarrassed by it all. But he is very grateful. He told me he thought his time had come."

Mike Roberts, of the Liverpool coastguard, said: "He came within moments of death. ... He didn't say much."



he was obviously too shocked to speak but he was able to say he had been there all night. It was quite breezy, so he was very cold. You could say that he was frightened to death."

Warning signs are posted along the beach.

Mr Gardner, 54, who raised the alarm, was checking his stock more than a mile away when he heard faint cries. He only visits his smallholding at weekends.

Guides are recommended for anyone wishing to explore the sands. Some of those involved in the rescue are expected to be cited for bravery awards.

Erskine Childers dies at 68

Erskine Childers, the writer, international civil servant and grandson of the author of *The Riddle of the Sands*, died from a heart attack after giving a speech in Luxembourg yesterday. Mr Childers, 68, who shared his name with his father, the fourth President of Ireland, and his grandfather, was Secretary-General of the Federation of UN Associations.

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Olympic gold medal swimmer 'unstable' after being stabbed

BY CRAIG LORD, SWIMMING CORRESPONDENT

ALEXSANDR POPOV, 24, the Russian swimmer who at Atlanta became the first swimmer since Johnny "Tarzan" Weissmuller in 1928 to retain the Olympic 100m freestyle title, was in intensive care last night after undergoing surgery for abdominal stab wounds at a Moscow hospital.

A hospital spokesman described his condition as "serious and unstable". The swimmer was stabbed after arguing with roadside watermelon sellers at about 11pm on Saturday.

Mr Popov, who is 6ft 5in tall, lives in Canberra and trains at the Australian Institute for Sport. He is to take up Australian citizenship this autumn. In the past two years he has spoken openly of being afraid for his safety on the rare occasions when he returns to Russia because of jealousy over his perceived wealth.

He is the greatest sprint swimmer the world has seen. He has not been beaten in

freestyle in an Olympic (50m) pool since 1990. In 1994 he set the world record of 48.21sec for the 100m at Monte Carlo.

At the time, he said of Russia: "I fear for my safety. I lost a lot of weight worrying about this when I was last in Moscow. Each time I go back, I get the idea that I will never come back again, that it will be my last time. People are



Popov: feared for his life when visiting Russia

jealous of the wealth they think sportsmen have."

Gennadi Alekhin, president of the Russian Swimming Federation, said that Popov had also suffered damage to a lung and his kidneys during the attack.

Viktor Chernomyrdin, the Prime Minister, expressed his outrage, called for a thorough investigation and ordered the health authorities to ensure that the swimmer, who had returned to Russia after the Atlanta Games to visit his parents, was given the best possible treatment.

At the Russian Olympic trials this year, some swimmers hired bodyguards, fearing that they might be the targets of hired assassins. According to a Russian team official in Atlanta, the cost of hiring a hitman was smaller than the amount you could earn from an Olympic medal. He added that some people were "prepared to take such risks in Russia these days".

Public schools win more Oxford places

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

INDEPENDENT schools have tightened their grip on entrance to Oxford University, despite rising A-level grades in the state system and a long-running campaign to attract more comprehensive pupils.

Only a third of the state schools and colleges with A level candidates supplied any applicants last year, and almost half of those emerging candidates failed to secure a single place, according to a university analysis to be published later this year.

In contrast, the overwhelming majority of independent schools with sixth-formers put forward candidates and three-quarters of schools were successful. Overall, the independent sector's share of places rose by 1 percentage point to 47.4 per cent.

Cambridge is yet to publish its entrance statistics for 1995, but in the two previous years the university admitted almost identical numbers from the state and independent sectors.

Oxford, however, continues to take more students from private schools, although the majority of applicants are state educated.

The proportion of Oxford's first-year undergraduates from independent schools rose from 46.4 per cent to 47.4 per cent last year. Almost 40 per cent of applicants were from the independent sector, a rise of more than three percentage points on 1994. A university spokeswoman said: "Our experience is that there is greater preselection of candidates in independent schools."

This year's places are still being allocated, but indications in a number of subjects are that independent schools will maintain their position. In chemistry, for example, four out of five independent school pupils were successful in the last Oxford Entrance Examination.

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THIS WEEK IN THE TIMES

TUESDAY

UNDERSTANDING SIBLINGS

Part 2 of our series

PLUS: The Libby Purves column



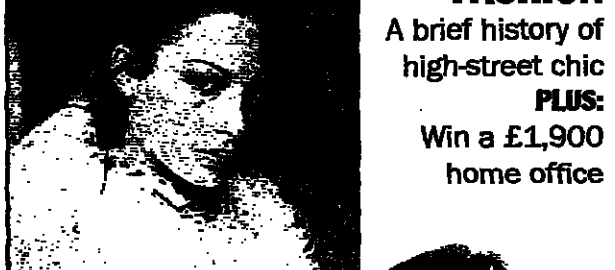
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FASHION

A brief history of high-street chic

PLUS:

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THURSDAY

FILMS

Geoff Brown on

Liv Tyler in

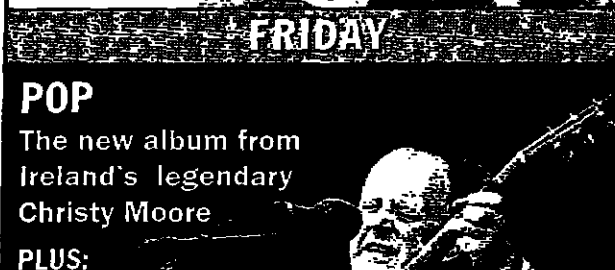
'Stealing Beauty'

PLUS:

Dr Thomas

Stuttard's

Medical Briefing



FRIDAY

POP

The new album from

Ireland's legendary

Christy Moore

PLUS:

The

Education

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SATURDAY

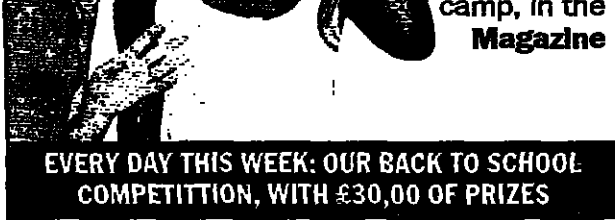
TOUJOURS ST. TROPEZ

The celebrity

holiday

camp, in the

Magazine



EVERY DAY THIS WEEK: OUR BACK TO SCHOOL COMPETITION, WITH £30,00 OF PRIZES

Adie criticised

Continued from page 1

the 1986 American air attack on Libya was sympathetic to Colonel Gaddafi. She also reported from the Gulf War and the Tiananmen Square protest after making her name covering the SAS hostage rescue from the Iranian Embassy in London.

Yesterday she said in a statement: "It would be improper for me to comment on remarks made by a member of BBC staff." Speaking from her London home, she said she could not expand on the comment for that reason.

BBC News executives defended Miss Adie and their decision to send her to the scene. One said: "Kate is the BBC's chief news correspondent. In that role she covers a wide range of stories and it was entirely appropriate for her to report on Dunblane. In fact, she was chosen because of her precise style of reporting."

One BBC insider said that Miss Adie was furious about the comments. He added: "We have no idea why Colin said this publicly. It was not something he had raised before to my knowledge. But he is very experienced in the BBC and would not have said this off the cuff. It was obviously something he decided he wanted to say, a point he wanted to make."

Some BBC staff believe it may be part of a long-running rift between parts of the BBC in Scotland and in London. Some local staff in Scotland did not see the need for a reporter to be sent from London by the BBC to cover the tragedy.

Director-general 'unsackable' after dismissal of predecessor

Prison chiefs prepare report on 'early-release' affair

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

RICHARD TILT, the Director-General of the Prison Service, is to meet senior colleagues today as they prepare a report for Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, on who was to blame for the "early release" blunder.

Mr Tilt arrived back in Britain yesterday after cutting short a walking holiday in Italy to take charge of the latest crisis to engulf the prison service. As he arrived home, ministers conceded that he is virtually "unsackable" from the post he took up permanently only four months ago.

In spite of Mr Howard's displeasure at the service's failure to alert him to the early release of convicts, a senior minister said that it would be difficult to dismiss Mr Tilt so soon after the sacking of Derek Lewis, his predecessor. Mr Tilt was appointed after a number of people with private and public-sector experience were informally approached and refused to be considered for the job.

One minister said yesterday: "We cannot sack another Director-General. Just who would do the job in his place?" Ministers also recognise that to sack Mr Tilt would cause a furor among prison governors and shatter morale in a service which is having to cope with cuts in its budget as the prison population has risen at a rate of 250 a week to reach a record 56,000.

But Mr Tilt, 52, the first prison governor to be made Director-General of the prison service, faces an uncomfortable few days with Conservative MPs firmly blaming him for the crisis. Nicholas Winterton, Conservative MP for Macclesfield, said accused Mr Tilt of a "gross dereliction of duty" in not informing Mr Howard of the early releases.

A prison service spokesman said: "Mr Tilt feels it is going to be a difficult week, especially if there is a court case, and he would rather come back than offer advice to Alan Walker — who has his full support — over the telephone."

Mr Tilt made clear, however, that he will not quit. "I have no intention of resigning. I'm not sure anybody is to blame," he declared.

His style of management also came in for criticism in Whitehall. "He delegates. Up until now it has worked but this time the people to whom he delegated let him down. It was a lesson his predecessor learned from hard experience," a source said.

An report is expected on Mr Howard's desk within the next two days outlining who was responsible for the crisis and how it was allowed to develop without the Home Secretary being alerted.

Mr Howard is expected to hold talks by telephone with Mr Tilt today and to call him to the Home Office for a meeting tomorrow.

Meanwhile staff in 138 jails in England and Wales are on alert to prevent any riots by inmates whose hopes of immediate release have been ended by Mr Howard pending a court challenge.

A total of 86 prisoners had already been freed, including 19 from Haverigg prison in Millom within 24 hours of new instructions being issued on August 15, before Mr Howard ordered a halt.

One in twelve prisoners in jails in England and Wales is a foreign national, according to a survey published today by the Prison Reform Trust. More than half the 304 foreign women in jail are serving drugs-related offences highlighting the continued use by drug dealers of women as



Richard Tilt, Director-General of the Prison Service, faces criticism for his role

"mules" to carry cocaine and heroin into the UK.

The study showed that 3,917 foreign men were in prison in April this year with disproportionate numbers of inmates from Ghana, Nigeria and Kenya. Stephen Shaw, director of the Trust, said: "The face of the prison system is changing. There are now twice as many foreign nationals in jail as the entire women's prison population."

He said the prison service needed to take into account the cultural needs of its diverse population. "Minimum requirements include language services and contact with em-

bassies, consulates and groups which represent foreign nationals in the community," he said.

The report shows that a small number of jails had high concentrations of foreign nationals.

Letters, page 17

Bureaucratic confusion that took shine off Home Secretary's decisive week

BY RICHARD FORD

IT WAS to have been the week that Michael Howard burned his credentials by acting decisively on law and order. Instead, it ended with the Home Secretary forced on the defensive over a prison service blunder which again raised questions about his stewardship of the Home Office.

For this was no sudden crisis like the break-outs from Whitemoor and Parkhurst top-security jails. In July 1995 ministers were informed that difficulties had arisen over the calculation of sentences and there was growing concern within the Prison Service that a court challenge would eventually be successful.

While Director-General of the Prison Service, Derek Lewis wrote a memo to ministers advising them that a working party should be set up to consider legislation on the issue. An interdepartmental working party was established in October.

Simultaneously, but without the knowledge of Mr Howard or Ann Widdecombe, the Prisons Minister, the service set up a working group to look at its Sentencing Calculation Manual. The group was headed by Sally Swift, a senior governor currently working at prison service headquarters at Cleveland House in Westminster. She was a governor at Puckchurch and Birmingham prisons.

During the group's work it emerged that there were inconsistencies and mistakes being made in the calculation

of sentences, particularly consecutive sentences given to multiple offenders. Home Office lawyers were consulted in July and on August 12 they came back with advice that for 30 years the service had been incorrectly interpreting the 1967 Criminal Justice Act, which allows time on remand to be taken off a jail term. Rather than knocking off the time spent on remand from the total sentence, it should have been subtracted from each sentence for those given consecutive jail terms.

Three days later, on August 15, governors were issued an instruction by the Prison Service. It gave new details of how to calculate sentences and advised that time spent on remand should be taken off each one of consecutive sentences rather than off just one sentence.

As the guidance arrived at the 138 jails in England and Wales, Mr Howard returned from holiday in the United States unaware of the matter. He went straight to his constituency, Folkestone, to visit people whose homes and businesses had been flooded by storms.

The Home Secretary was already planning a "law and order" offensive with a series of announcements. As the duty minister he was also guaranteed a high profile in the media. On Friday, August 15, a Home Office source disclosed to the media that Mr Howard was fighting for the Union Jack to be included on the proposed voluntary identity



Howard: knew nothing before media question

card. The announcement was going ahead with a voluntary scheme had been planned for last Monday.

The Home Secretary returned to his office at Queen Anne's Gate on Monday, August 19, for a series of meetings including one to try to resolve his struggle to "save the Union Flag" for ID cards.

As he appeared at a Home Office press conference on Wednesday, August 21, to announce that CS sprays would be available to all police forces in England and Wales, Mr Howard was unaware of the political disaster being triggered by events a few hundred miles to the north. At

Haverigg jail in Millom, Cumbria, 33 inmates were released after a recalculation of their sentences. Within hours probation officers had become alarmed at reports of inmates suddenly leaving jails without proper preparation for release and aftercare.

At the same time Richard Tilt, Mr Lewis's replacement as Director-General, sent a memorandum to Mr Howard and Miss Widdecombe updating them on a number of prison issues, particularly the pressures causing by the record number of prisoners. The memo warned them that some prisoners would be released early and that it could cause some interest.

The warning was not "flagged up" to alert the ministers. Miss Widdecombe was on holiday and not receiving ministerial boxes, and officials in Mr Howard's private office did not alert him to Mr Tilt's memo. It remained unread until the story was about to break in *The Times* last Friday.

On Thursday, August 22, Mr Tilt left for a walking holiday in Italy while Mr Howard unveiled the voluntary identity card scheme, savouring his victory in ensuring that the Union Jack would be prominently displayed.

It was to be a short-lived moment of political triumph. Eight hours later, as he arrived to be interviewed for Channel 4 News, Mr Howard was asked by a journalist about the release of prisoners. It was the first he knew about it.

The next day a furious Mr Howard demanded to know

what was going on from Alan Walker, acting Director-General while Mr Tilt was on holiday. He was furious that no one in the service had consulted ministers about such a sensitive issue and astonished that the prison officials could not tell him how many inmates would leave jail or give him an estimate of compensation likely to be paid to former convicts who had spent too long in jail.

Mr Howard, who had been in his constituency for most of Friday, returned to the Home Office late in the afternoon after giving orders that David Pannick, QC, be consulted about the legality of the issue.

At 7.30pm he held an emergency meeting in his office with senior advisers and was informed that Mr Pannick's advice was that the law was unclear. His initial response was that the whole programme of early releases should be cancelled but after warnings from prison service officials that such a move could trigger unrest in overcrowded jails, a compromise was agreed.

The programme of releases would be suspended pending an early court hearing on the issue. Mr Tilt talked with the Home Secretary by telephone and the news was released just before 10pm on Friday.

Mr Howard returned to his Folkestone constituency and Mr Tilt prepared to break his holiday in Italy to return to London, where the Home Secretary will expect a personal explanation of what has happened plus a written report on the debacle.

Blair plan to punish rebels dropped

Tony Blair has decided to drop proposals to withdraw the Labour whip from rebellious MPs after opposition from John Prescott, his deputy, and Robin Cook, the Shadow Foreign Secretary.

The disciplinary move was floated after last month's Shadow Cabinet elections as a way of keeping left-wing critics of the leadership in check. But while Mr Blair's plans for a review of party disciplinary procedures will go ahead this autumn, few big changes are expected.

An independent study has shown that Mr Blair would face more backbench rebellions as Prime Minister than John Major has. Researchers at Hull University found that while 40 per cent of Tory MPs had rebelled since 1992, 70 per cent of the Parliamentary Labour Party had defied the leadership more than once.

Tory advertising

The Advertising Standards Authority will deliver its verdict today or tomorrow on the Tories' "demon eyes" poster of Tony Blair. The secretariat of the authority has recommended that the complaint is upheld because Mr Blair's permission was not sought for the advertisement that portrayed him in an "offensive" way. Lord Rodgers, chairman of the authority, described as misleading reports that a decision had been made.

Child sighting

Police searching for Jodi Loughlin, 6, and her brother Tom, 4, who disappeared from a beach at Holme next the Sea, Norfolk, more than a week ago, are investigating a report of a small girl seen in a lorry cab. The sighting, at a service station at Long Sutton, Lincolnshire, about eight hours after the children disappeared 40 miles away, was reported to police by a couple who had earlier helped to search for the children.

Carnival floats

Torrential rain kept thousands of people away from the Notting Hill carnival in London yesterday but did nothing to dampen the spirits of children who danced through the streets. Police estimated that only 150,000 spectators turned up for children's day, compared with twice that number last year. Almost 7,000 police were on duty but the only arrest was in connection with an immigration offence. Larger crowds are expected today.

Soldiers killed

Three British soldiers were killed in a road accident yesterday morning at Wietzenhof in northern Germany, police said. Their vehicle left the road on a bend and rolled over before smashing into a tree. The soldiers, who have not yet been named, were all passengers. The driver of the vehicle, who is also a British soldier, was reported to have escaped with slight injuries.

Beach stabbing

A civil servant with the Foreign Office was stabbed seven times on a beach at the Turkish resort of Marmaris, Jason Kew, 25, suffered a punctured lung in the attack, which happened after his girlfriend spurned the advances of a local man at a seafood bar. Mr Kew spent twelve days in a local hospital. He described the August 2 attack yesterday, recovering at his parents' home in Northamptonshire.

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Civil servants told not to talk about redundancy fear

BY JILL SHERMAN, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

CIVIL servants have been threatened with disciplinary action if they contact MPs, pressure groups or other "influential institutions" about job cuts.

A circular from the Government's Benefits Agency, leaked to *The Times*, expresses concern about a number of press reports based on internal documents or containing quotes from staff members complaining about the Benefits Agency or the policies of the Social Security Department.

The letter, from Paul Murphy, the agency's personnel and communications director,

says that although employees were told last year by the agency's chief executive not to approach the media directly, many were now complaining to MPs and other groups about service cutbacks.

"Problems have arisen recently as a result of staff seeking to enlist support for their case against possible reductions in services by writing to politicians, pressure groups and other influential institutions," says the paper.

"Misguided approaches to outside organisations may not have the same high profile as approaches to the media but

they have the same capacity to embarrass the Agency and divert a very considerable amount of staff effort to dealing with the fallout from them," it says. "There should be no doubting the seriousness with which the agency views this kind of unauthorised activity; nor the high risk of disciplinary action."

The document applies to all the Benefits Agency's 72,000 employees, many of whom staff local benefit offices. It ends: "I shall be grateful if you will ensure that this guidance is drawn to the attention of ALL staff."

Defenders of morality threaten adoption reforms

BY DOMINIC KENNEDY

THE biggest changes in adoption law for 20 years are at risk of being shelved because ministers fear they will become a battleground for MPs with strong views on morality and the family.

The adoption Bill, which supporters hoped would become law before the general election, may be left out of the Queen's Speech. It was seen as a brave attempt to revive adoption as an alternative to abortion for unmarried pregnant women, and as a more secure choice than fostering for many children with parents unable to cope.

Although the changes to adoption law are largely technical at first glance, there are a number of possible points of dispute. The most controversial idea is that the child's interests must be paramount, a principle already enshrined in the Children Act. That would make the courts more likely to force a child to be adopted, against the wishes of its natural parents, if social workers convinced a judge that it was best for the child.

The Bill avoids the question of political correctness by adoption agencies after the scandals of couples being rejected

because of education, age and race. Instead Herbert Lanning, head of the Social Services Inspectorate, wrote a warning letter to all social service directors early this year.

But MPs might try to amend the Bill to impose legal ban on political correctness in adoption, or to introduce clauses preventing homosexuals from adopting.

Adoption agencies will be deeply disappointed if the Bill is dropped. The number of adoptions has fallen from 13,000 in 1977 to only 7,000 in 1991, a change blamed on easier abortion.

THE TIMES

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THE TIMES MONDAY AUGUST 26 1996

Watchdog investigates video of hospital operations

THE Video Standards Council has begun an investigation into a cassette which goes on sale today, purporting to show surgical operations on National Health Service patients.

The Department of Health is also studying *Everyday Operations*, a 53-minute tape which features open-heart treatment, penile and breast implants and plastic surgery.

Patients' leaders called for the £12.99 video to be banned because the patients would have consented to be filmed only to help the training of surgeons. But the film's maker, IMC Video, says that its motives are educational.

Guy Howland, of the Patients

■ Patients' representatives have called for a purportedly educational cassette showing National Health Service surgery to be removed from the shops, Dominic Kennedy reports

Association, said: "We have called for this video to be withdrawn. I hope the Government and the Video Standards Council will actually ensure that it is withdrawn today, before it can be put on sale."

The Video Standards Council was looking for ways to stop the sale and distribution of the cassette. Many shops were already reluctant to stock the video, which

goes on general release with a warning triangle and 18 certificate. The council said that it was treating the Patients Association's comments to the media as a complaint. The watchdog has the power to limit the sale of the video.

A spokesman also suggested patients should consider suing the producers for using the material without consent.

Gerry Malone, the Health Min-

ister, said that the basic principles of the National Health Service demanded protection of dignity, confidentiality and privacy.

"I take very seriously any allegations of patient confidentiality being breached. If these are NHS patients who have not given their consent, I would like to see the supporting evidence so that my officials can look into the matter promptly," Mr Malone said.

The video features more than 20 operations including eye surgery, bowel removal, treatments of the gall bladder, varicose veins and appendix, replacement of shoulders, hips and knees.

There are explicit shots of gynae-

logical procedures, a penile implant for an impotent man and a vasectomy. David Donoghue, a spokesman for IMC Video, said the footage had been obtained from the medical teams who had filmed the operations.

"The real producers of the film are the medically-qualified teams who held the cameras," he said. "What we have done is open up something increasingly used by professionals for training and said: 'You the public, you the patients and potential patients and you who fund the NHS through your taxes, can now actually see what happens in hospitals.'"

Vivian Nathanson, head of ethics for the British Medical Association, said: "A video that is made of

extracts from whole procedures does not seem to have much educational value." Dr Nathanson said: "We urge people not to watch this video and doctors and patients are going to have to look at the contracts signed with the company to see how it can be stopped. It is deeply distasteful and very worrying." The cover of the cassette states: "This video contains scenes you may find disturbing". It then adds: "Over 20 brilliantly performed operations are vividly revealed".

The outcry over the surgical video follows uproar at previous releases from another company, Eduvision, one showing real executions, and another including foot-

age of embarrassing behaviour caught by security cameras.

Barrie Goulding, of Eduvision, said it would be wrong to ban the latest film. "From what I have seen, if the general public want to buy it that's fine," he said. "The people who should be under fire are the doctors who sold the material, not the programme-makers."

During a debate at the Edinburgh Festival, Sarah Thane, director of programmes at the Independent Television Commission, yesterday accused the writers and producers of television dramas such as *Cracker* and *Silent Witness* of depicting a level of violence more suited to Quentin Tarantino's films than to the small screen.

Martyr in defence of the gallon

Garage man to defy Brussels on metrication

BY ANDREW PIERCE, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

A RURAL garage owner may soon become the first trader prosecuted for defying new laws on metrication. Peter Sandell, who runs the family business in Bath, which was started by his grandfather in 1920, has said he will go to prison rather than obey the law to sell paraffin in litres, not gallons.

Metriation, first spread through Europe by Napoleon, caught up with Britain from Brussels on October 1 last year as part of a phased switch to bring Britain into line with the Continent. While most traders have conformed to the regulations, Mr Sandell has promised to become the first martyr to the metrication cause and to fight the issue through the courts. "He will become a national hero overnight," said a Tory Euro-sceptic MP yesterday.

Trading Standards officials have already delivered one warning to Mr Sandell who took over the garage from his father, Graham, 66, who still works in the business. The father and son are adamant they will not back down.

Peter Sandell said: "It's a lot of old bureaucratic rot. My

next inspection is imminent. They need not bother wasting their time coming round.

"I am still selling the paraffin in gallons. I have a sign saying it is being sold in gallons, and I have no intention of changing it. Apart from the fact I cannot afford the cost of installing a new paraffin dispenser I have no intention of being bullied. They are trying to change a British way of life. My grandfather who founded this business would be turning over in his grave if he knew about this nonsense."

The British Weights and Measures Association, formed to campaign against the law which makes it an offence to sell a 5lb bag of potatoes, will provide Mr Sandell with the services of a barrister free of charge. Mr Sandell has been advised by trading standards officers to consider a compromise: to sell in multiples of 4.540 ml - better known as a gallon. "But I think it would be a bit complicated to work it out so I am going to stick to gallons," he said.

Metriation Day last year was marked by a series of protests by the UK Independence Party which is backing

Mr Sandell's stand. He is the Bath area organiser of the party. The UKIP plans a challenge to the legality of the changes in the European Court of Justice.

Dr Alan Sked, the chairman of the party, said: "British citizens like Peter Sandell are being discriminated against because they have no option but to accept this. Nowhere in Europe are these measures being enforced with the full power and penalties of the law. They are punning our Anglo-Saxon heritage."

Vivian Linacre, the chairman of the Weights and Measures Association, said: "We will be delighted if, at last, a local authority trading standards body brings a prosecution against an honest trader who is defying these tyrannical regulations. It is high time the bureaucrats put up or shut up."

Mr Linacre, who is also in the UKIP, said: "We will provide full legal support, without charge, to any trader right to the Court of Appeal if necessary."

Trading Standards officers have been lenient with companies unable to pay the costs of conversion. A spokesman for the Trading Standards Institute said: "If the regulations are deliberately flouted the law would have to be complied with."

Mr Sandell added: "People still think in gallons. We should be able to sell products in whatever is the most convenient unit. The Imperial measure has a lot of advantages. I cannot convert the paraffin dispenser to litres even if I want to. I cannot afford a replacement and even if I could I would not dream of it. I am declaring a state of independence from Brussels."

The UKIP is planning a nationwide protest on October 1 to mark the first anniversary of Metriation Day. "We will never give in," said Dr Sked, who stood against Chris Patten in Bath in the General Election for the UKIP's forerunner, the Anti-Federalist League.



Michael Penrose at Heathrow yesterday with his mother and father, who were "thrilled" at his safe return

Chechen 'bandits' pushed loaded rifle into British hostage's mouth

BY TIM JONES

AN AID worker held hostage by gunmen in Chechnya said he was beaten with rifles and had a loaded Kalashnikov pushed into his mouth.

Michael Penrose, who was yesterday celebrating his freedom with his family, was held captive for almost a month after being seized by six gunmen in Grozny, the capital. Together with a colleague, Frederic Malardeau, 35, who worked with him for the aid group Action Against Hunger, Mr Penrose, 23, was kept for days without food as Russian fighter planes bombed the city.

He said he and his colleague were taken when the vehicle they were driving was forced to a halt by a white van. "The doors of the van opened and six men carrying Kalashnikovs and a grenade came out and pulled us in.

They then drove us away and handed us over to another group."

He added: "The worst period of physical manhandling was during that time when we were beaten with rifles and at one point I had a cocked Kalashnikov held to the back of my mouth."

Mr Penrose, of Swerford, Oxfordshire, said on arrival at Heathrow airport that he and Malardeau were kept in a small room with no bed and were often not fed for two or three days. "Some times we were given bread and tomatoes and, although we were never tied up or chained, we were always kept under armed guard."

After his capture on July 27, there were reports that his kidnappers were demanding a £300,000 ransom. But Daniel Pouillet-Breton, who



heads the charity, said no money had been paid to secure their release.

Mr Penrose described his captors as bandits and said they were holding out for payment until their nerve failed when the fighting got too close to where they were holding the two men. While he was captive, bombs and grenades shook the house as fighting between Russian troops and Chechen rebels intensified. Before his re-

lease last week, the area was bombed heavily by Russian MIGs.

"In 20 minutes, we were told, they dropped five tonnes of explosives. For the first time, I saw our captors getting worried and if they were worried then we were very worried."

Mr Penrose and his colleague were handed over to the International Committee of the Red Cross and flown into Moscow on Friday. After being reunited with his family, Mr Penrose said he would not be returning to Chechnya in the foreseeable future.

His father, David, said he was delighted that his son had returned safely to Britain: "I am just thrilled, just absolutely thrilled." His mother, Yvonne, said: "It's wonderful. We missed him very much." They were going to enjoy a quiet day at home.



Peter Sandell refuses to metricate the paraffin pump at the garage his family has run for 76 years

Arrest raises fear of paedophile cover-up

FROM CHARLES BREMMER IN BRUSSELS

A POLICE inspector was being questioned yesterday over a possible link to Marc Dutroux, the confessed paedophile killer, fuelling accusations that the child abuser may have enjoyed top-level protection which helped him to evade detection.

Georges Zico was held at the police station in the southeastern town of Neufchateau, a Belgian television channel reported. Mr Zico is a detective in Charleroi, the city where two girls, aged 12 and 14, were found in a cell in one of Dutroux's houses. The bodies of two other girls were dug up from the garden of another of Dutroux's properties near by.

Belgian radio said that the detective had previously been implicated in the

stolen car trade. Police were also searching a house in Courcelles, another suburb of Charleroi, owned by a man nicknamed "The German" by neighbours and said to have been involved in stealing cars and incarcerating the children.

The authorities had been repeatedly alerted to suspicious behaviour by Dutroux, who had been released in 1992 after serving a brief sentence for abducting and raping children. A newspaper report said that police had freed two boys and a girl from another house belonging to him a day after he and an accomplice had kidnapped them on November 4.

The police have so far arrested six people, including Dutroux's school-teacher wife, and seized hundreds of pornographic video tapes and magazines. They are searching for more

bodies at the 11 houses owned by Dutroux, 39, and officers have travelled to Prague to investigate reports that two teenagers, whom he admitted kidnapping, had been sold in the Czech Republic or Slovakia.

Michel Bourlet, the chief prosecutor in the case, raised speculation of high-level involvement in the child abuse at the weekend when he said that he would prosecute each person who could be identified on the pornographic video-cassettes. "If I am allowed to do so."

Marie-France Botte, a campaigner against child sex-abuse, on Saturday urged Stefan de Clerck, the Justice Minister, to ensure that the investigation was conducted with absolute "transparency". She said it was clear that "for sex trafficking in children to work, offenders have to have protec-

tion. There must be political and financial support."

The parents of the two dead girls distanced themselves at the weekend from petitions demanding the death penalty and permanent prison for such offences. Gino Russo, the father of Melissa, who died with Julie Lejeune, said the four parents wanted nothing to do with petitions and money-raising efforts being carried out in the aftermath of the discovery of their daughters' bodies. Tens of thousands of people are reported to have signed appeals calling for restoration of the death penalty for paedophile offences or life terms without parole.

Police prepared yesterday to use a British-pioneered "radar" device to search for more bodies. They were to begin excavating in another part of Charleroi.

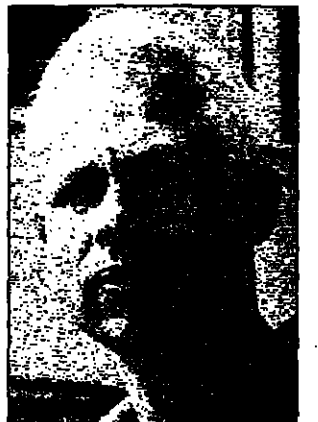
'Tribal chief' skull was white woman's

A SKULL said to have been of an African warrior chief which was taken to South Africa from Britain has been found to be from a white woman.

Nicholas Galeka arrived in Britain with tribal fanfare and in a few days unearthed what he said were the bones of an ancestor missing for more than a century. After studying the skull last week, the South African anthropologist Phillip Tobias said it had belonged to a white woman, not the African warrior chief shot in 1835 by a British soldier during the Cape Colony War in South Africa. Leaders of the Galeka

tribe had begun questioning Nicholas Galeka's quest almost as soon as he returned earlier this year, asking who had given him the authority to launch a search for the head of King Hintsa and why he had portrayed himself to Britons as the tribe's chief.

They insisted that the skull he found on farmland north of Inverness be examined by experts. Galeka, who said Hintsa's head had been hacked off and sent to Britain as a trophy, had landed at Heathrow airport in February dressed in leopard skins, a short red skirt and a red cloak.



Barry: happened to be passing burning house

You can't expect to wield supreme executive power just because some watery tart threw a sword at you.

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Divorce approaches with little pomp in sad circumstances

THE 15-year drama of the Prince and Princess of Wales, which began as high romantic theatre in St Paul's Cathedral and descended into a tragedy of bitterness, will end on Wednesday, its closing scene the payment of a £20 fee and the rubber stamp of a clerk.

At the appointed interval of six weeks and one day after being granted a decree nisi in the Family Division of the High Court, the Prince will apply to have his decree made absolute. The final act requires no court appearance, only a quick bureau cratic check that the dates are right and that no appeal has been

lodged. The process is so routine that the principal lawyers who negotiated the £15 million settlement have gone on holiday, leaving the task to junior partners.

As the last strands of the marital knot are untied, the parties will be 500 miles apart. The Prince will be on holiday at Balmoral with Prince William, Prince Harry, the Queen and other members of the Royal Family, contemplating what may be a difficult future.

If he ventures out on the estate's 54,000 acres he will be under the scrutiny of long lenses. The Queen's threat to order four freelance photographers off the

■ The Prince and Princess of Wales will part forever on Wednesday in an unceremonious procedure that could hardly be in greater contrast to their glamorous wedding. Alan Hamilton writes

estate has run into difficulties because of the extreme complexity of trespass law in Scotland. Buckingham Palace said yesterday that legal proceedings were still being considered, but it is now thought unlikely that they can be enforced. Camilla Parker Bowles strays into their sights, after a short-lived

tabloid rumour that she might join the prince to celebrate his freedom. But it is improbable that either party would be so insensitive as to be seen together on the Queen's estate on the day of the divorce, especially with the young princes present. Mrs Parker Bowles is believed not to have been near Balmoral for 20 years.

The Prince has no public engagements until next Monday, when he interrupts his holiday for a day in Berlin at projects connected with his interest in architecture and community planning.

As the divorce is made absolute the Princess is expected to be at her apartments in Kensington Palace. During the day she has an engagement with the English National Ballet, arranged before the divorce date was known.

From Wednesday Diana, Princess of Wales, will be a free agent, except for having to seek the Queen's permission if she wants to travel abroad on anything other

than a private holiday. She has already announced that she has accepted charity engagements in Australia and the United States. She will be free to conduct whatever personal life she chooses, except that whatever she does will be done under intense media scrutiny, probably for the rest of her life.

She may be comforted by the knowledge that, with the Queen's permission, she can still use royal flights, and can entertain in the state apartments of St James's Palace. Ejected from that palace's office accommodation, she is now trying to rebuild a personal staff,

for which she is allowed £400,000 a year, at a new office in an empty apartment at Kensington Palace, under the same roof as her own private quarters.

The Prince must decide how to handle his relationship with Camilla Parker Bowles, an issue which is rapidly rising to the top of the royal agenda. His dilemma is whether to try to maintain total discretion over a matter which has become universal public knowledge, or gradually to introduce her to the public, some of which is hostile to Mrs Parker Bowles and retains much sympathy for the Princess.

Marital status 'should not be an issue in debate over future of the Church of England'

Highgrove vicar says Prince should drop historic title

BY ALAN HAMILTON

THE Sovereign's title Defender of the Faith and the Prince of Wales's preferred alternative were both anachronistic and should be discarded, the Prince's vicar at Highgrove said yesterday.

The Rev John Hawthorne, of St Mary the Virgin at Tetbury, Gloucestershire, where the Prince has his country home, also said that the Prince's divorce should play no part in the debate on the possible disestablishment of the Church of England. Some Anglicans have argued that an established church could not tolerate a divorced king and self-confessed adulterer as its Supreme Governor. The marriage of the Prince and the Princess of Wales is to end on Wednesday with the granting of a decree absolute.

Mr Hawthorne said: "For any monarch to assume the title Defender of the Faith is an intolerable burden: faith is an entirely personal thing. At the same time the Prince's suggestion of Defender of Faiths is

patronising, meaningless and tautologous. Any monarch should defend and uphold all his people, whatever their faith might be and even if they have none.

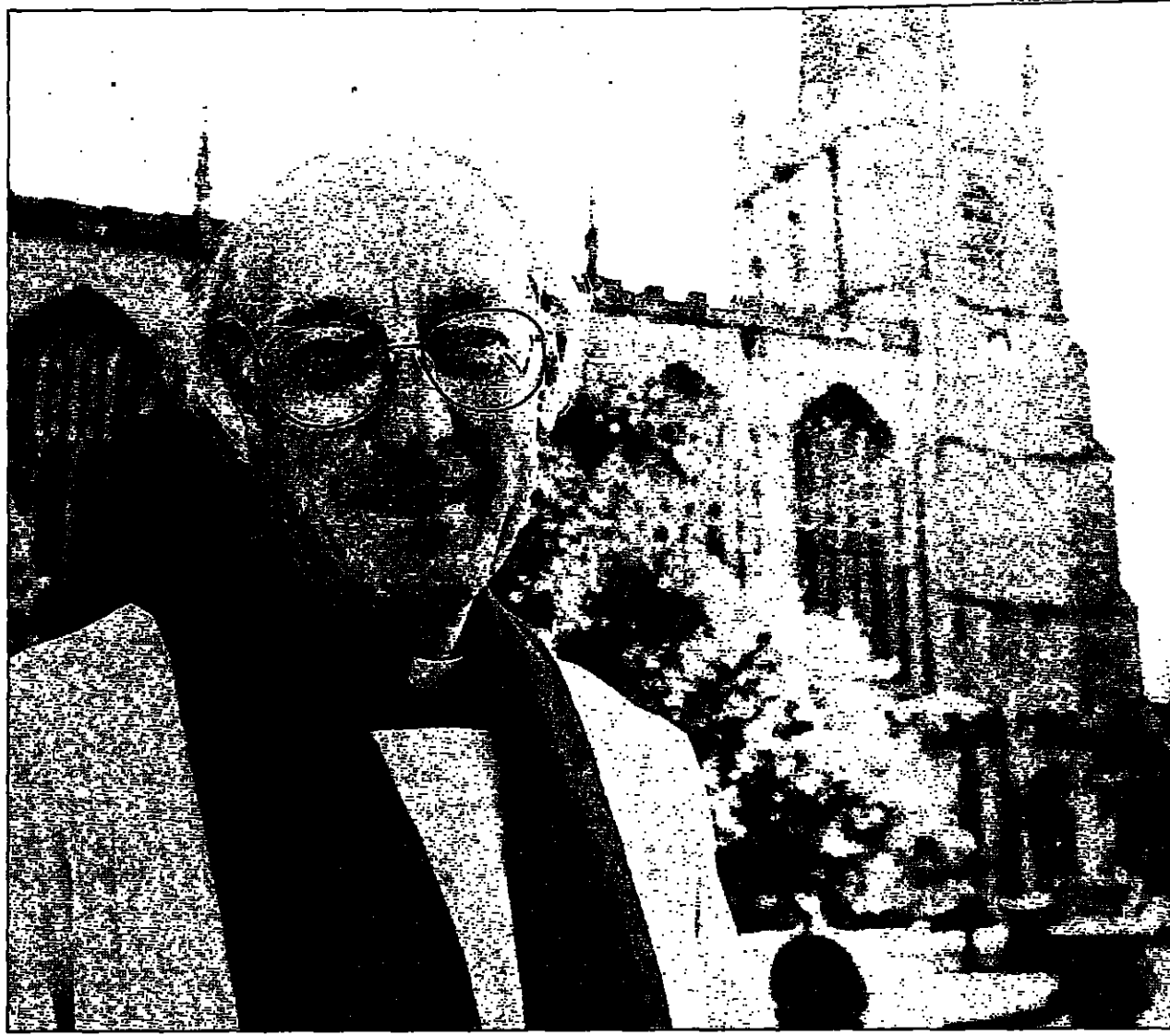
"Should the Church of England become disestablished, it would be no bad thing. The argument that having an established church weaves religion into everyday life is a fallacy; the Anglican faith should stand on its excellence, and not be cosseted," Mr Hawthorne said.

The title Defender of the Faith was settled on Henry VIII and his successors in perpetuity by Act of Parliament in 1534. It still appears on the coinage in its abbreviated Latin form of *Fidei Defensor*. Although now assumed to mean defender of the Anglican faith, the title predates the Reformation by many years, having been bestowed by Pope Leo X on Henry VIII in 1521 for Henry's treatise *Assertio Septem Sacramentorum*, in which the King upheld belief in the

Seven Sacraments and refuted the doctrines of Martin Luther.

The sovereign's other ecclesiastical title, Supreme Governor of the Church of England, was adopted by Elizabeth I in 1570. In the country's other established church, the Church of Scotland, the clergy do not regard their supreme governor as residing on this earth, and the Sovereign is a mere member of the Kirk, of equal status with any other communicant.

Mr Hawthorne said yesterday: "Disestablishment does not hang on the Prince of Wales's divorce. Establishment came with Henry VIII, who was hardly a Vestal Virgin and even one of the Church's greatest figures, Thomas Cranmer, broke his vows of celibacy twice. The only difference between the present Prince of Wales and a long line of his predecessors is that he has been forced to live his life under the 20th century media spotlight."



The Rev John Hawthorne, outside his church St Mary the Virgin, Tetbury, Gloucestershire

Carey condemns flight from values as DIY morality

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY

CHRISTIANS should stand up for traditional moral values in a Britain suffering the consequences of a "privatised, DIY morality", the Archbishop of Canterbury said yesterday.

Speaking to 20,000 people at the twenty-third Greenbelt Festival, Dr George Carey said that it sometimes seemed the only thing that could not be tolerated nowadays was to say that some behaviour was wrong. His message was widely applauded by his audience of mainly young people in T-shirts and jeans attending Britain's biggest Christian arts festi-

val, being held this year at Deane Park, Corby, in Northamptonshire.

The Archbishop recalled that he had last gone to the festival, which is partly organised by Christian Aid, 17 or 18 years ago when he camped out with his family. The theme of the festival then had been a summons to "radical Christian discipleship".

That was just as valid today, Dr Carey said. But he added a warning that the justified reaction against a definition of holiness as "a series of don'ts", which had been the prevailing view of his own teenage years, had gone too far in the other direction. "At present we live in a

society where so often the impression is given that the only thing that cannot be tolerated is saying that something is wrong," he said. "In the midst of such thinking the truly radical Christian disciple is going to have to swim against the tide and say that there are moral standards—both personal and corporate—that we set aside at our peril."

He added: "Too often people are encouraged to think no further than their own private world... We are now seeing the consequences of a privatised, DIY morality working itself out in many aspects of our society. This applies also to our

Church. It is tempting to... focus on maintenance rather than mission, to focus on survival rather than sacrifice."

There was still much to be learnt from the scandal of the Nine O'Clock Service rave worship in Sheffield last year, which had been a "sorry, humbling and shameful tale", Dr Carey said. The issue was not primarily about new forms of worship, which he welcomed, but about a departure from fundamental standards of Christian holiness in which people had been manipulated and power and authority misused.

The Archbishop paid tribute to

Christopher Gray, the young vicar recently murdered in Liverpool, saying he hoped that his story would inspire others to a new commitment to radical Christianity. "He could have had an easy life," Dr Carey said. "He could have enjoyed academic adulation and success. But he chose to follow God's call, to give himself to the people he served and to take risks in the service of others."

During the communion service, the highlight of the four-day festival and billed as "the funkiest you have ever experienced", the crowd sang modern hymns in reggae style to the backing of a rock band.

Stricken trawler heads for Irish port

A stricken Japanese tuna trawler is expected to reach Cork this afternoon after a gas leak killed the captain and four crew. The *Tasei Maru* was one of up to 30 Japanese trawlers found fishing for bluefin tuna off the coast of Ireland last week. Two captains have been charged with illegal fishing in Irish waters.

The *Tasei Maru* was in international waters when Freon gas used to freeze the tuna seeped into the engine room. A sixth member of the crew of 22 is suffering gas inhalation.

Manager on bail

The Lincoln City football manager, John Beck, was released on bail after being questioned about a multimillion-pound whisky fraud. Mr Beck, 42, was arrested at the third division club's ground minutes before their match on Saturday. Two people have been charged and a further six arrested by Customs and Excise.

Hospital police

A part-time police station is to be set up in the accident and emergency department at Edinburgh Royal Infirmary to combat the growing number of assaults on staff. An average of two attacks take place daily carried out by relatives or friends of patients. The one-off cost of £10,000 will be met by the hospital.

Briton held

A British businessman living on the Costa Blanca in Spain has been questioned by police investigating the stabbing of the 71-year-old head of a British circus acrobatic troupe. Spanish police were also questioning Roy Davis, 48, about the killing of Eva Slivinski's grandson, Jan Juri Slivinski, in Benidorm.

Kidd progress

The stunt rider Eddie Kidd, seriously hurt in a display two weeks ago, was breathing unaided after doctors took him off a ventilator. Kidd, 36, suffered serious head injuries after making a 30ft jump. Doctors at Warwick Hospital said that he was in a fairly but stable condition, and was likely to have brain damage.

Extended break

Some of the tallest people in Britain are taking their annual short break this Bank Holiday weekend at an hotel in the centre of Bristol. The average height of the 60 members from the Tall Persons Club of Great Britain is 6ft 6in. Among the guests is Chris Green, who, at 7ft 6in, is the tallest man in Britain.

MP memorial

A project for a bust in memory of Sir Charles Irving, Conservative MP for Cheltenham 1974-92, has raised £2,500 and is likely to go ahead. Cheltenham Borough Council, of which Sir Charles was a member for half a century, had hoped the appeal would raise £8,000. Sir Charles died aged 71 in March last year.

Speedier drug

The maker of the drug Prozac, Lilly Industries, is developing a new generation of the antidepressant which takes effect quickly rather than after three weeks, as is the case with the current compound. Prozac raises the concentration of serotonin, a mood-altering messenger chemical, in the nerve cells of the brain.

Birds bonus

Bird watchers received a Bank Holiday bonus with sightings of two rare waders. A young black-winged pratincole appeared at Leighton Moss nature reserve in north Lancashire, 2,000 miles off course, and a solitary sandpiper was seen on St Mary's, Isles of Scilly, having been blown across the Atlantic.



Carey: call to Christians

Author of leaked Treasury report will keep her job

BY ANDREW PIERCE, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

CIVIL SERVICE mandarins have decided not to dismiss Helen Goodman, the Treasury high-flyer, over claims that she misled her employers about her links to the Labour Party.

But Miss Goodman, 39, the author of a leaked report that sparked a political furore over her proposals for dismantling the welfare state, is not expected to progress any further up the Civil Service ladder.

Sir Terence Burns, Permanent Secretary at the Treasury, set up an investigation into Ms Goodman's response to media inquiries about her membership of the Labour Party.

Having initially denied the reports, the Treasury was forced into a humiliating public retraction when Ms Goodman, a £41,000-a-year principal officer, admitted she had been shortlisted for the safe seat of Barnsley.

Ms Goodman was ordered to appear before Sir Terence to justify her initial response. Ms Goodman, who is about to go on maternity leave, has been advised to think carefully about her future at the Treasury.

The Treasury declined yesterday to comment on the meeting. But one Treasury source said: "You can be certain the meeting was tense. The whole episode was an embarrassment for the Treasury from the beginning to the end."

Kenneth Clarke, Chancellor of the Exchequer, challenged by the Labour Party to disown the controversial report,

played down its significance by deriding the authors as "kids from the office".

Ms Goodman, educated at Somerville, Oxford, had worked at the Treasury for at least 15 years and had been tipped for promotion.

In her application to fight Barnsley at the next election Ms Goodman played down her academic achievements for fear of alienating the working-class Barnsley voters and claimed to have been an adviser to Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor. Mr Brown has never met her.

The Treasury official, who said the source of the leak of the 123-page document would not be identified, added: "No cardinal sins have been committed. But she will be reprimanded and will probably end up counting paperclips for the rest of her career in a bowl of rice Treasury."

Ms Goodman, who is married to Charles Seaford, editor of the left-of-centre *Prospect* magazine, used to be a close friend of David Willets, the Civil Service minister.

The leaked report, which proposed privatising the welfare state and cutting spending on education, was a toned-down version of her first draft agenda for a fifth Conservative term of office. It advocated the virtual privatisation of the National Health Service and public transport system. Miss Goodman was ordered to rewrite it.

The Treasury will seek to draw a veil over this one to defuse any further controversy, the Treasury source said.

Carriers of HIV given chance of fatherhood

BY DOMINIC KENNEDY

MEN carrying HIV, the virus connected with Aids, are being offered the chance to become fathers by having the virus removed from their sperm. The Chelsea and Westminster Hospital in west London is refining a sperm "washing" technique pioneered by Augusto Sempaini, a medical researcher at Milan University, designed to prevent the virus being transmitted to the child.

The hospital's ethics committee has approved the idea in principle although critics fear it could lead to the mothers being infected with HIV. "Washing" the sperm does not eliminate the virus completely.

Michael Pawson, an honorary consultant at the Chelsea and Westminster, said: "It has been in front of the ethics committee and we're going ahead with the treatment." A dozen couples are believed to be keen to become parents using the technique in Britain.

Mr Sempaini has performed nearly 1,000 inseminations on more than 350 women, who have given birth to 111 babies. None of the children or mothers became infected with HIV. He has treated five British couples. One pair now have a five-year-old child conceived with his help.

Although he admits that the technique has risks, he says it is safer than unprotected sex.

Patriotic bean seeks subsidy from Brussels

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

HOME-GROWN baked beans will be heading for the shops this autumn in a pioneering venture that aims to replace North American imports. But farmers' hopes of profiting from the new crop, a considerable technical feat in Britain's unfavourable climate, could be dashed by lack of support from the European Union.

Brussels has so far refused to grant American navy beans, the type used by the baked bean industry, the generous subsidies paid for other pulses grown in Europe such as peas and broad beans.

British consumers more baked beans than any other country, with 900 million tins worth £225 million eaten each year. About £40 million would be wiped off the trade deficit if the 90,000 tonnes of raw beans imported annually for processing, mainly from Michigan, were grown here.

Peter Hague, who farms near Chichester, West Sussex, is growing 15 acres of a type of navy bean specially bred for British conditions. "It has proved much easier than I thought and the crop is looking really good. We have shown that it can be done. Now we need the financial support."

Four other farmers in the Chichester area and on Hayling Island, Hampshire, are involved in the trial. They hope to produce a total of 50 tonnes of beans from 60 acres, nearing the target yield of a tonne per acre.

The experiment is being backed by Safeway and Sainsbury's, which have con-

tracted to buy the crop. Mr Hague and the other growers will receive £550 a tonne, about £100 more than the cost of imported beans.

"In the long term, growing the bean here is not going to be viable without support. I could get 6000 an acre for growing peas, of which £150 would come in the form of a European Union subsidy," Mr Hague said.

The bean cannot be planted until mid May, to be sure of missing the last frost, and needs to be ready for harvesting by the middle of September. A further requirement was that it could be sown and harvested with the same machinery used for other arable crops. Much of southeast England is considered suitable for the crop.

Safeway hopes to have 264,000 tins of home-grown beans in a patriotic Union Jack wrapper on its shelves by the middle of October, more than four times the number available last year when the limited stocks sold out within a few days.

Geoffrey Gent, director of the Processors and Growers Research Organisation, which developed the British version of the bean with plant scientists at Cambridge University, has not given up hope of winning Brussels round.

"After three years of lobbying, there is now a chance of getting a subsidy for navy beans," he said. "They are grown as an alternative to other subsidised crops, such as peas, so the overall level of subsidy would not rise."

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THE TIMES

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AS MOTHER TEVE

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There are many cause

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Doctors fear the impact of total recall on the mind of a girl left for dead alongside her mother and sister



Show of strength: simple pictures by Josephine Russell still adorning the walls of the ward where she staged her remarkable fight back to physical health illustrate the story of her stubborn determination to return home with her father.

She survived, but can Josie live with her memories?

At the hospital she was seen first by Professor Charles Pol-

"This phase of recovery after head injuries is a very restless stage," Dr Crouchman said. "She taxed both the police and her father because

Josephine's agitated state continued for about a month, until she was allowed to go home briefly for the first time on August 3. By then she had been allowed out daily with her father to visit the park or take trips to London Zoo and New Gardens.

"She would pick up her father's car keys and stand by the door or pack a bag as an indication that she wanted to leave," Dr Crouchman said. "For a child in her situation she had only a limited idea of what was happening to her. She was in a very strange environment and it was good for her to get out. She is a strong-willed girl and that came through even in her confused state. She was extremely elegant when she finally agreed to get dressed. She also started to wear hats because she is very conscious about her scars."

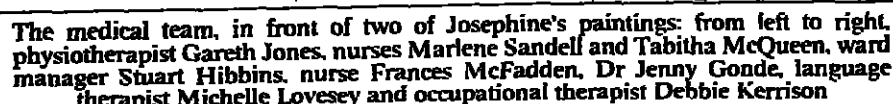
By the fifth week, Josephine was allowed to see her school friends. She had already received their cards although it was unclear whether she had understood them. She was also starting to draw simple

Each week, Josephine's team, including a psychiatrist, dietitian and social worker, had an hour-long meeting to talk about her recovery. Her father was also present and was given minutes of the

discussions. Dr Crouchman, who has four children of her own, said: "Dr Russell is a very self-contained and stoical man, he certainly doesn't show his grief openly the way some parents do. How do you relate to someone who has had such an appalling thing happen to him? We had to be straight with him. He was

During her last week in hospital Josephine began the speech therapy which is now so important. "By the time she left us she had worked up to about an hour at a time. Before that she had no atten-

tion span," Dr. Crounch said. "We expected her intelligence to be preserved but she still has a problem with understanding language, particularly verbal language. We were very surprised how rapidly her physical recovery came. The prognosis is still uncertain. I reserve judgment about a complete recovery."



As prayers go out for Mother Teresa, specialists reappraise key heart drug

Modern therapy for heart failure alleviates many of its symptoms and allows patients to lead an active life. But it is only the comparatively recently introduced ACE inhibitors that have been shown to prolong life.

In other cases the underlying cause of heart failure is a weakness in the heart muscle, either from damage as a result of deprivation of the necessary oxygen and nutrients following narrowing of the coronary arteries, or because the heart muscle, like

the body's other muscles, weakened for a variety of reasons in old age. In many cases patients of Sister Teresa's age have hearts in which the muscle has degenerated both as a result of poor blood supply from coronary heart disease and from other ageing processes. Whatever the cause, the weakened muscles thereafter enfeeble the pumping action of the heart, which fails to deliver blood effectively to the essential organs.

For over 200 years heart failure has been treated with digitalis, recently in the form of digoxin. The use of digoxin brings immediate relief of symptoms to patients who are

in heart failure and whose heart is beating irregularly. Whether a heart's performance is improved in patients where the beat is regular is disputed. There have been fears for some time that there is an increase in the sudden death rate in patients taking digoxin which statistically nullifies the advantages of its use. There seems no doubt that when given unselectively to all patients with chronic heart failure there is no difference in long-term survival. The evidence for and against digoxin will be presented in Birmingham this week. Most doctors already use digoxin selectively.

Hindus, Muslims and Christians in Calcutta joined in prayers for Mother Teresa's recovery yesterday. Sisters at her Missionaries of Charity headquarters prayed around the clock as presents were delivered in readiness for her 86th birthday today. Her condition showed no appreciable change.



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The conflict between conservation and development is dividing locals and 'blow-ins' from Europe

Irish clash with new invaders over their land and heritage

REPORTS BY AUDREY MAGEE, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

SEVENTY-FOUR years after the British left Ireland, inhabitants of one of its most beautiful corners fear they are dealing with a new wave of foreigners telling them what to do. But the German, Dutch and American immigrants to west Cork argue they are simply trying to preserve an unspoilt environment.

Michael Harrington, Fine Gael chairman of Cork County Council, resents a group of foreigners objecting to roads, houses and development of the rugged Beara peninsula in the extreme southwest of Cork. He said the foreigners wanted the Irish back in stone cottages, using outside toilets and complying with their perception of what it is to be Irish.

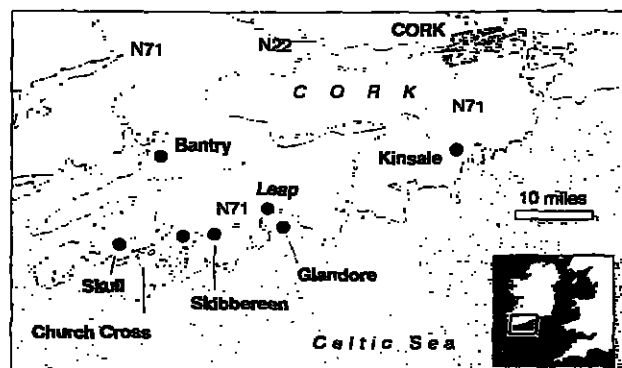
"I think they feel they are trying to protect us and that in some way or another that we are not capable or aware of what is happening to the outside world. Well, we are very capable and very aware," said Mr Harrington, who sells hardware and groceries in Castletownbere, Ireland's second largest fishing port.

Foreigners, but Germans and Dutch in particular, have been coming to Ireland for the past 20 years, attracted by the remoteness and distance from all that is wrong with the industrialised West. Almost 400 of the peninsula's 4,500 people are foreign.

Most have integrated into the community, setting up hairdressers' saloons, cafes and craft shops or working as architects and planners. For decades they have been known to locals as "blow-ins". But



Michael Harrington, of Cork Co Council, objects that immigrants such as Tony and Christa Lowes are imposing their own vision on Ireland



there is a core whom the Irish see as trouble.

They sit on An Taisce, a national environmental watchdog concerned particularly with planning and land rights, that most precious of Irish commodities. Irish history, song and literature — including John B. Keane's *The Field* — are littered with tales of brothers, sons and husbands who have murdered

over land. And now the foreigners have become involved.

Tony Lowes, an American by birth but now an Irish citizen, grows organic artichokes and lives up a rutted track, overlooking cliffs and sea. Equipped with a satellite dish and linked to the Internet, he wants to save west Cork from repeating the environmental mistakes of Germany, Britain and the United States.

"This xenophobia is just an excuse to argue against planning control," said Mr Lowes, who is secretary of the local branch of An Taisce.

"They want to build on the coast and we object and they say 'Oh, it's the foreigners again' ... I think he [Mr Harrington] finds it difficult to understand the changes that are taking place and the fact that the conservation of the

environment is our future."

But Mr Harrington said the locals will no longer tolerate being dictated to. He is still furious that An Taisce successfully objected two years ago to a retirement home for a west Cork woman returning from England. She wanted to build a bungalow near the coastline on her brother's land. Mr Lowes and his colleagues objected, saying it

would spoil the coastline. "We have had enough of that type of attitude. We have always lived to co-operate with each other — that is the Irish way."

"But we will not have people coming along and telling us how to live our lives. We will not take that from anybody — no matter what nationality they are," he said.

Leading article, page 17

THE TIMES

Media folk get away from it all — together

IN THE summer months, places such as Skull, Skibbereen and Baltimore along the dramatic west Cork coastline fill with media-famous Britons.

The attractions are seclusion and space. Two hours' drive from Cork finds you in a comfortable cottage or house miles from your nearest neighbour. There is hill-walking, sailing, fishing, golf and little worry of skin cancer.

The Irish have known about the area for some time. Mary Robinson, the Irish President, is a regular visitor to Skull, where friends have a holiday home. Tony O'Reilly, the owner of newspapers in Ireland, Australia and South Africa, has a house in Skull.

But the English are coming. The *Newsnight* presenter Jeremy Paxman, the television chef Keith Floyd and the singer-songwriter Brian Ferry and his wife Lucy have visited the area. Mr Floyd returns to Kinsale almost annually.

Others have sought to make the relationship with west Cork more permanent. The film producer Sir David Puttnam and the actor Jeremy Irons and his wife Sinéad Cusack have holiday homes facing each other on the banks of the river Uen, south of Skibbereen. Victoria Glendinning, biographer of Trollope, has a house in Church Cross, near Skibbereen. Anthony Lester, QC, and Rabbi Julia Neuberger have hideaways in Skull while Judge Pickles owns a cottage in Leap. Baroness Jay of Padding-

ton has a summer house in Glandore, which her father, Lord Callaghan of Cardiff, has visited. The artist William Crozier has a house in Kinsale while Bernard MacNicholas, owner of a large engineering company in London, has bought Killininn Castle and its 25 acres in Glandore.

House prices in west Cork have trebled in ten years. A five-bedroom house overlooking the sea on about two acres of land now costs about £270,000, well beyond the means of most local people.

Charles McCarthy, a Skibbereen auctioneer, sells about 50 west Cork houses a year to foreigners. More than a thousand people now attend the annual fair held by Irish auctioneers in London to sell Irish houses, castles and cottages to the English.

"The weather is not the best but it is always quite mild, even in the winter. And we have an easier way of life. That is what is most appealing," Mr McCarthy said.

Some of Ireland's best restaurants are in the area. Chez Youen in Baltimore has received numerous accolades for its seafood. If you are cooking for Islington neighbours that you bumped into at the pub, there is JJ Field & Co, a food emporium in Skibbereen that sells champagne, venison and free-range duck. It is trying to import Russian caviare. Fresh fish and lobster can be bought at the docks and the English market in Cork is a bazaar of all the local foodstuffs.



The £50,000 holiday home faced with limestone

Old-style cottages lure Americans

AMERICANS are being offered the chance to own stone cottages like those in which their ancestors lived before being forced out of Ireland by famine or lack of opportunity.

A Gaelic-speaking engineer has designed a stone home that mimics the style and shape of the houses lived in by Irish farmers and fishermen until this century. Patrick Kennedy, 45, said that he wanted to offer foreigners looking for a holiday home in Ireland a Celtic alternative to the white-washed bungalows blighting the landscape.

He will build the three-bedroomed houses, which cost £50,000, on sites bought by the visitors. A showhouse behind his home in Cor-mullen, Co Galway, illustrates the style. The house is made of concrete blocks but the exterior walls and roof are covered in blue-grey limestone from the Galway region. The small windows are

painted bright red in keeping with the Irish tradition of using strong colours against the dark surface of the house.

The domed ceiling in the living room is panelled with wood and the floor covered in Liscannor slabs, a blue-grey stone from Galway. The fireplace is weathered limestone.

Stone cottages have been built in Ireland since pre-Christian times but the stone roofs were gradually replaced by thatch and then by slate. Mr Kennedy modelled his house on the Gallarus oratory, a pre-Christian building in Ballyferrier, Co Kerry.

"Celts have an innate talent with stone. It is like giving an artist a blank canvas and brushes. They will make something very beautiful out of it," Mr Kennedy said. So far, he has had 35 inquiries from Americans interested in returning to their ancestral homeland.

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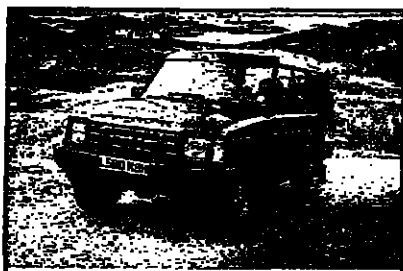
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8 OVERSEAS NEWS

Israeli President to see Arafat after Netanyahu snub

FROM ROSS DUNN IN JERUSALEM

PRESIDENT WEIZMAN of Israel has answered a "distress" call from Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian Authority chairman, after Benjamin Netanyahu, the Prime Minister, had failed to meet him.

Officials at the President's office told Israel's state radio that Mr Weizman arrived at the decision because he felt Mr Netanyahu's continued refusal to meet Mr Arafat had endangered the Middle East peace process. The officials added that Mr Weizman, a former general and Defence Minister, had consulted senior politicians and security chiefs before making the decision.

Mr Weizman told reporters that he had received a letter from Mr Arafat, spelling out his distress over Mr Netanyahu's effective freezing of peace negotiations with the Palestinians. In the letter, Mr Arafat also requested a meeting with Mr Weizman.

Asked why he had agreed to

the request, Mr Weizman replied that "first, because of (his) distress. But that is not the main thing: Arafat, whether we like it or not, is the first Palestinian leader in 100 years of confrontation to have attained a great political achievement."

Mr Weizman, who has met Mr Arafat once before, on the eve of the 1994 inauguration of Nelson Mandela as President of South Africa, said the Palestinian leader could not be ignored. "Today he [Mr Arafat] has control over more than two million Palestinians. When a leader like that, who is my neighbour, asks to see me, I think I have to agree."

Mr Weizman has been an outspoken critic of the Palestinians for their failure to stop attacks against Israelis by Islamic extremists. But his remarkable announcement represents an even stronger break with the traditional role of a president. It was the first

time he had intervened directly in the political process by agreeing to meet a Palestinian leader, in an attempt to change the direction of the Government.

After discussions last night, he and Mr Netanyahu agreed that the meeting should be held at the President's private residence in Caesarea on Israel's northern coast. No date has yet been fixed.

At the same time, Mr Weizman emphasised that the Prime Minister was the person navigating the peace process and he believed that in the long term Mr Netanyahu would make important achievements.

At a joint news conference, both men also denied Israeli press reports that Mr Weizman had delivered an ultimatum that if the Prime Minister did not agree to meet Mr Arafat by yesterday, then he would. "The report of any kind of ultimatum is non-



An Israeli Arab confronts police as tension gripped Jerusalem yesterday despite moves to revive peace talks

sense," Mr Netanyahu said. Despite such statements, even some members of the Prime Minister's own right-wing Likud Party publicly urge their leader to meet Mr Arafat. Meir Sheerit, the veteran Likud parliamentarian, said the Government should stop playing games with the Pales-

tinians. "There is no justification for any more postponement of the meeting between the Prime Minister and Mr Arafat," he said. "The Prime Minister should meet him at once, without any necessity for a push from the President." Some Likud members regard Mr Weizman's decision as the

latest in a series of incidents which have embarrassed and undermined Mr Netanyahu's authority in the peace process. Last week, the man he ousted from power, Shimon Peres, held his own much-publicised meeting with Mr Arafat, highlighting again Mr Netanyahu's refusal to hold

face-to-face talks with the Palestinian leader. Senior Palestinian Authority officials have said that Israel's delay in resuming negotiations have encouraged extremist Islamic dissidents to seek help from Iran in an attempt to overthrow the self-rule administration.

Jordan to expel Iraqis for riot link

Amman: Jordan has moved against Iraq after accusing it of stirring up bread riots, expelling an Iraqi Embassy employee and refusing to accredit the embassy's new first secretary.

Officials said yesterday that the measures were decided on after King Hussein blamed Iraq for the riots against a steep increase in the price of bread in southern Jordan last week. However, the Government has yet to make an official announcement of the expulsions.

The men involved were named Abbas Ali Hassan, an administrative employee at the Iraqi Embassy who does not have diplomatic status, and Khaled Rashid Musleh, who arrived in Amman early this month to be the first secretary. In addition, Jordan wants a third man, Adel Ibrahim, the Iraqi Embassy press attaché, to leave, sources said.

Last night, two anti-riot police vehicles mounted with sub-machineguns were deployed in front of the Iraqi Embassy in Amman. (AFP)

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Sek Kong commander Squadron Leader Dick Barton

Base abandoned as RAF takes flight from Hong Kong

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN HONG KONG

THE venerable Wessex HC Mk 2 helicopter from Royal Air Force Sek Kong, "the Far East Squadron", banked round over Hong Kong's New Territories and turned westwards, its two Rolls-Royce gas turbine engines blasting reassuringly.

There, just to the north, was the glittering skyscraper city of Shenzhen, a Chinese special economic zone, looking from 1,200ft as impressive and prosperous as Hong Kong.

Down below was the bridge at Lo Wu, where I walked into China in 1971 to re-open the Reuters bureau in Peking. My predecessor, Anthony Grey, had been held under house arrest for more than two years. Red Guards had strangled his kitten in front of him as they pinned his arms and forced him to his knees.

Apart from having understandably resolved not to keep a pet in China, I hardly knew what to expect as I handed my passport to a Red Army soldier in the centre of the bridge, beside a large red sign saying: "Down with the US Imperialists and all their Running Dogs." One was well aware British correspondents were seen as "running dogs".

Then Shenzhen was an impoverished place, with ill-clad peasants plodding behind water buffalo in paddy fields. But looking down now on Shenzhen, along the Shum Chun river that marks the China-Hong Kong border, one could not but reflect on what a difference a quarter of a century had made.

Master Air Loadmaster Bob Pountney, 52, of Liverpool, from his perch in the helicopter door, pointed out the new Chinese army HQ on the main road into Shenzhen from the Hong Kong border. Yet it is hard to imagine, with less than 11 months to go before China resumes sovereignty on June 30 next year, that the People's Liberation Army will be in downtown Hong Kong.

Wessex pilot Flight Lieutenant Andy Bastable, 29, of Hunstanton, Norfolk, came on the intercom to point out



the high, impregnable-looking border fence complex separating Hong Kong from China. But this fence, and its four Gurkha look-out points, is already porous, and there are millions of Chinese who will want to cross next year from booming Guangdong province for the higher wages in what will be a "special administrative region of China".

The RAF no longer flies regular border sorties from RAF Sek Kong. There are only six Wessex helicopters in service now, providing support for the Hong Kong garrison, comprising mainly a battalion of Gurkhas. Sek Kong will be abandoned in November, with the remaining helicopters moving to Kai Tak, Hong Kong's international airport, as the British pull-out goes inexorably into its final phase.

"The Chinese will take over Sek Kong, and I don't know what they will do with it, but from the point of any air force man this is a small but fine air base," said Sek Kong commander Squadron Leader Dick Barton, 37, from Aspatia, near Carlisle.

The 28 (Army Co-operation) Squadron was founded at Gosport in 1915 and during the Second World War its Hurricanes supported British forces in Burma. Later, it moved to Hong Kong, and flew Spitfires. In recent years, it helped in anti-smuggling operations.

After the changeover, 28 Squadron, with its 160 personnel, will disband, ending 80 years overseas, 48 of them in Hong Kong. There will be no permanent RAF presence in the Far East.

The Wessex helicopters, which look and sound their age, will not be taken back to the UK. They are for sale, though not, Sqn Ldr Barton notes, to the Red Army.

"We wouldn't want them to get hold of our technology," he jokes.

Cold kills 160 pilgrims

Srinagar: Indian troops with helicopters and relief supplies battled yesterday to rescue thousands of Hindu pilgrims stranded along a rough Himalayan track. Officials said at least 160 of the pilgrims had already died of cold.

Up to 70,000 pilgrims were stranded for a fourth day at heights of up to 12,000ft in Jammu and Kashmir state, the officials said. The survivors were all said to be safe. Bad weather hampered res-

cue work for the first three days, but conditions improved yesterday, helping efforts to reach the pilgrims, among them many naked sadhus (Hindu holy men), smeared only in ash.

Officials said about 112,000 Hindus had arrived in Kashmir this year to visit the holy Amarnath cave, where devotees worship an ice stalagmite believed to be a manifestation of the lingam (phallus), of the Hindu God Shiva. (Reuters)

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The Muslim's new protectors are the British troops. A permanent four-man observation post in the hamlet safeguards the villagers. Without it, ironically, Jumezlije would no longer exist.

Convention told to focus on 'a pathway to the future not a bridge to the past'

Clinton train ride blows the whistle on Dole tax plan

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN CHICAGO

PRESIDENT Clinton yesterday embarked on a four-day train journey to the Democratic convention in Chicago declaring that "America is back on track".

The country was far stronger than it was four years ago, insisted Mr Clinton, and it was he who had the vision to lead America into the next millennium while Bob Dole would take the country back to the fiscally irresponsible 1980s. The public should not be deceived by the Republican party's attempts to conceal its extremism.

A Newsweek poll gave the President a seven-point lead over Mr Dole. His campaign strategists are hoping for a "bounce" from the convention — which opens tonight — that will leave him in an almost unassailable position to become only the third Democratic president this century to win a second term.

"I'm very pleased that America's back on track... This country, compared to four years ago, is in much better shape," Mr Clinton claimed in a deliberate echo of Ronald Reagan's 1980 strategy of asking voters whether they felt better off after four years of President Carter.

Commenting on Mr Dole's plan to cut taxes by \$548 billion (£355 billion) over the next six years, Mr Clinton said this would wreck the country's economic recovery by exploding the deficit and driving up interest rates. "We've been there before," he said. "It was a movement to the past, not to the future."

At the Republicans' recent convention in San Diego, Mr Dole, who is 73, offered himself as a "bridge" back to the traditional values that made America great. The 50-year-old President eagerly accepted, arguing that "we should revere the past... but we've got to build a pathway to the future. Our sole concern ought to be what's this country going to look like when we start the 21st

century?" He also took sharp issue with his opponent's jibe at his wife, Hillary. Referring to Mrs Clinton's book on children, *It Takes a Village*, Mr Dole told his convention that it took a family to raise a child, not some left-wing collective.

Mr Clinton recalled how Mr Dole's small hometown of Russell, Kansas, provided the financial and moral support that enabled him to recover from his war wounds. "How many times has he told the story about the people caring for him in the hospital and how this country invested in his health care?" Mr Clinton asked. "How many times has he talked about how he went back home... and everybody worked to make him whole

again? I certainly think that the village helped him."

There was an organised and unprecedented Republican campaign against his wife, said Mr Clinton, but "she has held up well" under attacks. In an interview in the *Chicago Tribune*, Mr Clinton said he was not surprised by Republicans' indirect criticism at their convention. "It has been part of their political strategy for five years."

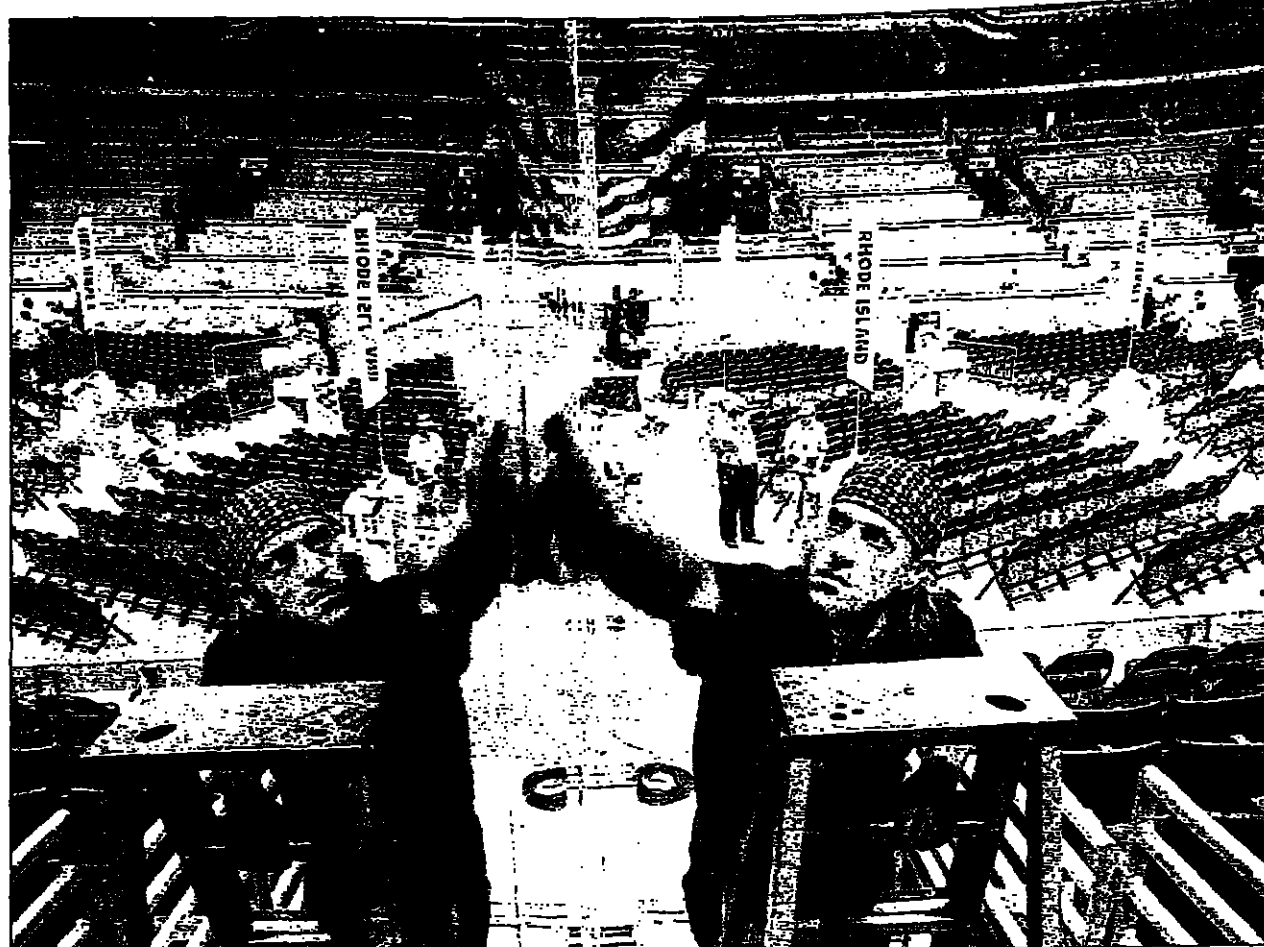
Mr Dole was making a campaign appearance in suburban Chicago later yesterday at which he planned to announce a new anti-drug initiative and to accuse Mr Clinton of neglecting the war on drugs. This was intended to underline his contention that the Clintons' permissive, baby-boomer generation had weakened America.

Mr Clinton acknowledged he would face criticism in Chicago for signing a Republican welfare reform bill last week that ends a 60-year guarantee of federal aid for the poor. But he accused the Republicans of stifling dissent at their convention in a concerted effort to hoodwink voters. "In San Diego they presented a moderate and unified image because they basically closeted away their most powerful leader, Speaker Gingrich. They didn't talk about their record in the last two years, the Dole-Gingrich record. They never even mentioned the *Contract with America*."

Mr Clinton promised to spell out his vision for the 21st century and exactly how he intended to achieve it in a second term when he finally arrives in the convention hall on Thursday evening.

Until then he intends to hog the limelight by announcing new initiatives from his train, the "21st Century Express". Over the weekend he called for a registry to keep track of sex offenders in all 50 states.

Anthony Howard, page 16
Leading article, page 17



A workman cleans a mirror on the main podium yesterday in preparation for the Democrats' convention in Chicago

Democrats in search of a plot

CHICAGO NOTEBOOK

The Democratic convention opening in Chicago tonight has a cast of thousands, but no plot. President Clinton's re-nomination is a foregone conclusion. So is Vice-President Al Gore's.

The only remotely divisive issue is welfare reform, but that is meagre fare for the legions of journalists gathered in the Windy City. This year the organisers seriously considered shortening the convention from four days to three, but had to abandon the idea because too many party bigwigs wanted their turn at the podium.

The Democrats face another big problem as they search for ways to dissuade millions of television viewers from switching off. They lack star turns. The Rev Jesse Jackson is no match for Colin Powell, who electrified the Republican convention in San Diego. Hillary Clinton can scarcely outdo Elizabeth Dole's brilliant impersonation of Oprah Winfrey. The Republicans produced Nancy Reagan and former Presidents Ford and Bush, but

Jimmy Carter is spurning Chicago, leaving his rather dreary Vice-President, Walter Mondale, as the Democrats' only elder statesman.

The organisers have found two ways round this problem. One is to beam in frequent pictures of the party's only real star, President Clinton, as he approaches Chicago by train. The other is to purloin the one big name the Republicans edited out of their script. Newt Gingrich, the deeply unpopular Speaker, will doubtless feature in almost every speech.

President Clinton, who published last week a tome of reshaped speeches entitled *Between Hope and History*, suddenly faces competition for the title of the year's most boring author. Bob Dole, his Republican challenger, will produce next week *Trusting the People*, an account of his economic plan that seems equally unlikely to make the bestseller lists.

Mr Dole, in the meantime,

made a mischievous campaign appearance in a Chicago suburb yesterday, having foiled a plan to stop him landing at either of this over-whelmingly Democratic city's airports. On Friday, a senior Dole aide saw Richard Daley, Chicago's Mayor, being interviewed on CNN. He immediately telephoned CNN's deputy political director, who fed a question into the interviewer's earpiece. Why was the Dole aircraft being denied landing permission, the Mayor was asked. Mr Daley was taken aback and within 20 minutes of the programme ending the plane received its clearance.

The 1968 Democratic convention in Chicago was one of the counter-culture's finest hours. Tens of thousands of hippies massed in Grant Park, on the shores of Lake Michigan, to protest against the Vietnam war and ended up fighting pitched battles with the police.

Over the weekend the last sorry remnants of that once-great movement returned to Grant Park. There were perhaps 100 in total: bearded, cadaverous middle-aged men with tie-dyed shirts and greying pony-tails, bareless and barefooted women with long cotton skirts, ankle bracelets and beaded hair — all dancing to the beat of bongos drums. A small cluster of tents sold joss sticks, hookahs, hemp jewellery, instructions for growing magic mushrooms and badges proclaiming "Minds are like parachutes: they only function when open" or "Be kind to Mother Nature — Legalise the Sacred Weed".

These human relics posed no threat whatsoever, but the authorities were taking no chances. In 1968, the demonstrators waving Viet Cong flags swarmed over the nearby statue of John Logan, a civil war general, on his horse. This year the horse's legs have been plastered with mechanical grease.

MARTIN FLETCHER

Jury has tobacco giants gasping with relief

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

THE American tobacco industry, battered by legal actions and government regulations, has won a closely watched case brought by the family of a smoker who died of lung cancer.

A jury in Indianapolis ruled on Friday night that the family of Richard Rogers, who died aged 52 after smoking two or three packs a day for 20 years, could not recover damages from the cigarette makers. The case was regarded on Wall Street as a bell-wether of jurors' attitudes in the wake of the decision in Florida on August 9 to award \$750,000 (£485,000) in damages to a smoker who developed lung cancer.

The latest verdict came as a relief to the tobacco industry on the very day that President Bill Clinton announced sweeping rules to curb cigarette sales to children. Last week, Arizona, Kansas and Michigan had joined almost a dozen other states in suing the cigarette makers to recover the cost of healthcare for smoking-related illnesses.

In the Indianapolis case, Mr Rogers' family claimed that the cigarettes he smoked were an unreasonably dangerous product sold by companies that had failed to let their customers know of the risks.

The defendants included Philip Morris, R. J. Reynolds, Brown & Williamson and the Liggett Group.

The jury found that the claim fell under a provision of Indiana law that bars damages if a plaintiff is more than 50 per cent responsible. "We felt that Richard Rogers bore a greater responsibility for the conditions that caused his death than did the actions of the defendants," David Anderson, the jury foreman, said.

Lawyers for the cigarette makers said the case showed that there was no groundswell of opinion in US courts in favour of compensating smokers. In the 1,020 actions brought against them in America since 1954, they have yet to pay a cent in damages.

William Rees-Mogg, page 16



Vice-President Al Gore at a Chicago rally with his wife Tipper



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WORLD SUMMARY

TWA bomb suspicion increases

New York: The reported finding of nitro-glycerine traces on the wreckage of TWA Flight 800 strengthened fears that a bomb brought the aircraft down (James Bone writes).

The New York *Daily News* said nitro-glycerine was found on debris from the same area of the right side of the plane as the residue of the high-explosive PETN identified in tests at the FBI's crime laboratory. "The amazing thing about that is that nitro-glycerine is water soluble," an official was quoted as saying.

Ukraine marks independence

Kiev: Millions of Ukrainians took to the streets of Kiev and other cities for a weekend of concerts, parades and ceremonies marking the country's fifth year of independence (Lesia Rudakewych writes). But for most the festivities were only a short reprieve from a hard life. The young and old especially have been hit by an economic crisis accompanying reforms.

Twelve killed in boat mutiny

Seoul: The South Korean captain of a fishing boat and 11 other seamen have been killed in an apparent mutiny in the South Pacific by Chinese crew members, Korean police said. The mutineers, ethnic Koreans from China, apparently revolted over harsh working conditions. The bodies were dumped overboard. (Reuters)

Afghan base falls to guerrillas

Kabul: The Afghan Government confirmed the fall of the strategic Spina Shiga base, near the Pakistani border, which was controlled by the Hezb-i-Islami faction loyal to Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, the Prime Minister, to the rival Taliban Islamic militia. (AFP)

Rachel, Nevada, capital of the intergalactic federation

FROM GILES WHITTILL IN RACHEL, NEVADA

IN THE UFO capital of the world there is no disagreement about whether or not alien spacecraft exist nearby, merely about what the Pentagon is doing with them.

A dozen or so miles from the US Government's most secret military testing site in the bleak desert of central Nevada, the psychic and the merely paranoid gathered at the weekend to demand that the authorities open up about the flying saucers they have, apparently, been "reverse engineering" since the 1940s.

"We are big boys, and we can handle this," said Don Suttle, the diehard "ufologist" who organised the meeting almost within binocular range of the base on Groom Dry Lake, known to enthusiasts as Area 51. "Our Government is treating us like children. We could be in danger of invasion and we ought to know about it," he said.

Dr Barbie Taylor, wide-eyed and purple-clad, was less confrontational. "We need to raise our consciousness enough to come into the intergalactic federation, but we

can't do it while we're fighting each other," she said.

For the people of Rachel, aliens are real, imminent and very good for business. This lonely scattering of mobile homes survived until recently on a trickle of visitors to the aptly named Little A-Le-Inn, its only motel. Most were UFO believers who frequently reported sightings at a famous "black mail-box" 20 miles down the road. Some were conspiracy theorists hoping to photograph Area 51 installations from a vantage point known as Freedom Ridge. A few came out of morbid curiosity to be close to the vast Nellis Nuclear Test Site of which Groom Lake is a part.

Yesterday's gathering, some 300 strong, confirmed the town's rise to dominance of the global UFO industry. The release of *Independence Day*, which depicts aliens captured in New Mexico in 1947 and stored in a vault in Area 51, has turned a stream of visitors into a flood.

The Little A-Le-Inn is fully booked for most of the summer. Marcus Pizzuti, a "crimi-

nologist-artist", is selling alien statuettes as fast as he can make them. "I do believe in the great possibility of alien abduction," he said solemnly.

Equally solemnly, Meisha Johnstone declared that she was "part of a hybrid programme". Abducted by aliens three years ago, she was gone from this Earth for an hour and 20 minutes and returned with extraterrestrial implants in her legs. She was later impregnated by aliens and now makes regular visits to her hybrid child on another, "brown", planet, probably in the constellation of Orion.

When on terra firma, she runs support groups for fellow abductees in Las Vegas. The closest thing in Rachel to an objective source on Area 51 is Glenn Campbell, a self-appointed watchdog over government ethical and financial misdeeds, he calls Groom Dry Lake "our own little pocket of communism", but dismisses talk of UFOs. Leaving his caravan, this reporter was briefly alarmed by a bright white disk in the night sky. It was the moon.

Hawaii wins Missouri battle

BY GILES WHITTILL



Missouri: attraction for Pearl Harbor tourists

THE biggest battleship built for the American Navy is to be given a permanent resting place in Hawaii as a "Statue of Liberty of the West".

The USS *Missouri*, which served in the Second World War and 46 years later in the Gulf conflict, will be moored as a memorial and tourist attraction in Honolulu's Pearl Harbor. John Dalton, the Navy Secretary, has announced.

His decision ends a fierce contest between four western ports for the prestige and tourist revenue that will accrue to the host of Mighty Mo. San Francisco, Long Beach and the Bremerton naval shipyard near Seattle had vied for the honour of providing the final mooring for the ship, which may be best-

known to younger generations as the setting for the thriller, *Under Siege*.

Nine floors high and 887 ft long, the *Missouri* will retire to the stretch of water where she was first deployed as flagship of the US Pacific Fleet. It was on the *Missouri*'s teak foredeck that General Douglas MacArthur received the Japanese surrender on September 2, 1945.

A brass plaque marking where the bloodiest war in history ended was the site of a ceremony attended by 12,000 veterans from both sides of the Pacific on the 50th anniversary of the capitulation last year. Only four years earlier, the largest ever installed on an American vessel, had pounded Iraqi emplacements on the Kuwaiti coast.

Why

Ge
timMammoth
challenge

Why we need to reward invention

Anjana Ahuja talks to two British inventors about the obstacles to turning good ideas into profit



Inventive genius may lie beneath unremarkable school grades

Frightful, shocking, dreadful and disgraceful. The adjectives crop up continuously as Sir Christopher Cockerell, inventor of the hovercraft, talks about the struggles he encountered as a young technical whiz. He used similar words in a letter to *The Times* last week to describe how Frank Whittle, inventor of the jet engine, was ignored by the Establishment of the time.

Now 86 and frail, Sir Christopher lives in a marvellously cluttered pink-washed house overlooking the sea in Hythe, near Southampton. From his fading blue armchair in the front room, where he sits to ease the pain in his hip, he can watch the comings and goings of ships. "I see them arriving, laden to the sky with imports," he says. "Then I see them going out again only three-quarters full with exports. Just by looking out of this window, I can see what the Chancellor of the Exchequer is going to know in a month."

If this distinguished inventor is to be believed, Britain is in a dismal state when it comes to innovation. Competitors such as Japan and Germany are striding ahead and as a result we are sliding into the red. One of the main reasons, he says, is the appalling way that British inventors are treated. He should know — when Britain argued with America over infringement of the hovercraft patent, America paid more than \$6 million to settle the

claim, Sir Christopher did not see a cent of it. He had relinquished his rights to the British Technology Group for £150,000; its forerunner, the National Research Development Corporation, had provided him and his family with a living.

Giving up rights to a lifetime's work and its spin-offs was just one of the sacrifices that young inventors of his era had to make. As an employee of Hovercraft Development Limited in the Fifties, he was paid an annual salary of £4,000 for six years. He recalls: "I didn't get a pay rise, or a pension. It's shocking, isn't it?" Before developing the hovercraft, for which he was awarded 56 patents, Sir Christopher, who read engineering at Cambridge University, worked for Marconi. His work merited 36 patents, for which he was paid just £10 each. Some of them, he says, were "terribly valuable".

But the resentment was eased by the knowledge that his work was for the public good. "I had a jolly good education and people like me thought it was a duty to produce something useful for mankind. That seems to have disappeared."

He thinks the education system fails innovators who, like him, may not have been brilliant in an academic sense. He adds that the low esteem, and salaries, granted to engineers and scientists deter bright young things from pursuing such careers. "People think that to



Sir Christopher Cockerell, inventor of the hovercraft, gave up the patent rights of a lifetime's work, believing it was for the public good

be educated you have to know the classics. And if you want to earn money you go into law and accountancy. This country produces half-educated people who can't talk to each other. It produces engineers who are quite unsuitable for positions of influence, and managers who can do no better

than stagger through our highly technological age."

His contempt for the conventions of academic life lingers: Sir Christopher speaks with pride of his 1967 knighthood and his five meetings with the Queen, but cannot recall when he was made a Fellow of the Royal Society, one of the most

prestigious accolades in British science.

This view, that inventive genius might lie hidden under the veneer of unremarkable school grades, finds sympathy with Trevor Baylis, inventor of the clockwork radio and BBC Designer of the Year. He describes himself as an 11-plus

failure, a B-stream pupil. Yet his idea promises to bring cheap communication to the Third World.

"Convention is the damnation of progress," says Mr Baylis. "If you go down just one corridor of thinking, you never get to see what's in the side rooms." He has used his award and

sudden fame — he was profiled by the BBC science programme *QED* — to fight for inventors. Although he would rather have set up shop in Britain, Mr Baylis had to go to South Africa to develop and manufacture his BayGen Freeplay radio, which is now sold in Harrods.

In collaboration with Professor Joshua Silver, from New College, Oxford, Mr Baylis plans to set up a National Academy of Invention and is discussing the idea with aides of the Prince of Wales.

The sudden interest has even led to what is thought to be the first accredited course in invention, which will start next month at Richmond-upon-Thames College in southwest London. Conceived and run by Bill Harding, and approved by the Institute of Patents and Inventors, the 25-week course will teach the history of invention, how it has benefited society and how to deal with the business side of developing new ideas. One of the greatest concerns for fledgling inventors is how to proceed when it comes to patents, money and the law. The course will provide a secure environment where inventors can seek advice without getting their ideas pinched.

One obvious question is, where does the Department of Trade and Industry fit in? Sir Christopher and Mr Baylis are united in their belief that it is ineffectual. Sir Christopher's face drops at the mention of the DTI: "If you went there you would be given reams of regulations written by civil servants. Of course you don't want an utterly easy way for inventors — we'd be smothered with failures." If his mailbag is anything to go by, there are lots of inventors with more optimism than talent.

Mr Baylis says that the department's "Smart" awards for innovation inevitably mean that clever ideas go to the wall. "For every innovation that gets an award, another nine don't," he says. Meanwhile, for the good of your bank balance and the country, if you have a good idea don't sit on it. He says: "There's an invention in all of us but most people think that someone else must have thought of it first. They are the best ones. If you don't do anything about it, you will regret it."

Sir Christopher is more contemplative. Perhaps because of his age and experience, he regards our approach to inventing as a serious setback for the whole country. Looking out of his window at the ships, he says softly: "This really is a terrible problem, you know. People think there aren't any more inventions to invent, but there are."

Letters, page 17

A deep-sea microbe may yield clues to the origin of life on Earth

A STRANGE organism found living in extreme conditions at the bottom of the sea has turned out to have a surprising amount in common with human beings.

Though a bacterium, this microbe is more closely related to higher species such as plants, animals and man than it is to today's bacteria. This is remarkable because it comes from nearly 10,000 feet down in the Pacific Ocean and grows in a hydrothermal vent where heat from the Earth's interior emerges and heats the sea to close to boiling.

The organism was collected in 1982 by the submarine *Alvin*, which stretched out an arm and grabbed a mat of bacteria growing in a thermal vent. Among the bacteria was one that was given the name *Methanocaldococcus jannaschii*, after Holger Jannasch, leader of the expedition. It grows without oxygen and generates energy by converting carbon dioxide and hydrogen to methane.

According to Craig Venter of the Institute for Genomic Research: "It's like something out of science fiction. Not so long ago, nobody would have believed you if you had told them that such

Germs that time forgot

organisms existed on Earth."

M. jannaschii lives at temperatures of up to 94°C, high enough to sterilise all normal bacteria, and pressures of 200 atmospheres. Yet the analysis of its genome — the complete set of the organism's genes — by Dr Venter and others shows that it has unexpected parallels with higher life forms.

The discovery comes as a splendid vindication for Dr Carl Woese of the University of Illinois, a co-author with Dr Venter of a paper describing the organism's genome in the current issue of *Science*. Twenty years ago he suggested that bacteria of this type are a distinct form



SCIENCE BRIEFING

Nigel Hawkes

of life, belonging to neither the prokaryotes (today's bacteria and blue-green algae) or the eukaryotes (today's higher species, including man). This group is now called archaea, or archaea for short.

The genome does indeed show that *M. jannaschii* is a different kind of organism. It contains 1,682 genes on one large chromosome and another 66 on two smaller ones. The overlap with two modern bacteria which have been sequenced is small, only 11 per cent for *Haemophilus influenzae*, and 17 per cent for *Mycoplasma genitalium*.

So archaea do differ tremendously from ordinary bacteria. More surprising is the fact that the genes that control the organism's DNA information system are close to those of eukaryotes such as yeast. "The data confirm what we've long suspected, that the archaea are related to us, to the eukaryotes," says Dr Woese. "They are descendants of the micro-organisms that gave rise to the eukaryotic cell billions of years ago."

The extreme conditions in which *M. jannaschii* thrives suggests it may have evolved elsewhere in the Universe, splashed down like the meteorite from Mars, and sailed the oceans with the beginnings of life. The beauty of the organism is that it is able to thrive on inorganic materials such as carbon dioxide and ammonia, and so fills the oceans with the nutrients needed by other life forms.

The US space agency NASA is now making plans to search for similar organisms on Mars and on Jupiter's moon Europa. And the US Department of Energy, which sponsored the genome work, hopes that *M. jannaschii* might provide a new way of making methane — a natural gas. This really is an organism for all seasons.

Mammoth challenge



TWO Japanese researchers want to recreate a mammoth using methods reminiscent of Michael Crichton's novel *Jurassic Park*. Dr Kazufumi Goto and Dr Shoji Okutsu, of Kagoshima University, are in Siberia to discuss their project with Russian scientists in Yakutsk, who regularly dig well-preserved mammoths from the permafrost. The plan, Dr Goto told *Kyodo News* before he left, is to try to find preserved DNA in one of these creatures, and use it to fertilise a modern-day elephant egg.

The fertilised egg would be brought to term in an elephant to produce what

would amount to a mammoth-elephant cross. Over several generations of crosses, a creature close to the ancient mammoth could be recreated, Dr Goto believes. The project faces near-insuperable odds. To make it work, the Japanese scientists would need perfectly preserved DNA, and that seems very unlikely. So far only tiny and very degraded samples of DNA have been extracted from ancient specimens.

Only DNA from mammoth sperm would do as other cells are not "totipotent" — that is, they cannot develop into all the organs of the body. Even if those two conditions were met, mammoth sperm may not be able to fertilise elephant eggs. "We don't know until we try it," said an undaunted Dr Goto. "If we are successful, we may be able to revive other extinct species using the same process."

The ice man cometh



TWO Canadian archaeologists have uncovered evidence which they say shows that North America was occupied by man some 21,000 years ago, 10,000 years earlier than previously believed. Stone tools discovered on the banks of the Bow River, west of Calgary, include scrapers, axes, and smaller tools used for carving wood, say Alan Bryan, Professor Emeritus of Anthropology at the University of Alberta, and his colleague Professor Jiri Chlachula, also at the university.

Dr Bryan believes that the tools were used by people living in the area just before ice advanced from the north

in the last glacial maximum, when glaciers and ice-caps stretched much further south than they do today.

He says that the site was a quarry workshop, not a campsite, and that no traces of bone, charcoal or any organic material were found from which carbon dates could be calculated. The objects have therefore been dated by reference to the geological strata in which they were found.

The first finds were made in 1990 by Dr Chlachula, then a graduate student. This year, a team from the university found more than 20 of the limestone tools, lying at the same level as organic remains, including ancient trees, around Edmonton. These have been carbon dated to 21,000 years ago. At the time, although the advancing ice must have been close, people could have survived in the area, Dr Bryan says.

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on large families; Victoria Coren and Barbara Castle on the benefits of being the last-born

Children need company

IN PRAISE OF BIG FAMILIES

Early in 1972 our trio of tiny tots was transformed overnight to a quintet: the twins had arrived. We now had five children under five, making merry all over. I gazed at the sagging washing line and felt more like Polly Garter every minute. Would nothing ever grow in my garden, only washing? And babies.

Our first baby had been easy enough and seemed to enjoy his brief spell as an only child, playing quietly by himself with the paint-pots and tools in his father's print studio. Yet ask an only child to name their favourite playthings, and as like as not they will say "other children".

I am still terribly glad that I didn't "stop at one" (as the *Planned Parenthood* leaflet told me I ought). Nor at two. In my experience a "pigeon pair" is just about the most exhausting number of all, with half one's life spent prising the bickering twosome apart. Of course, a parent is forever striving to turn this raw material of a child's basic instincts into spun gold — instilling in them the virtues of fair play and forbearance as when one teaches the elder child to share his precious possessions, and persuades the younger one to hand back the tufts of hair she has just plucked from the older one's scalp.

It is an uphill struggle but infinitely more beneficial to the children, in the long run, than the alternative route taken by so many of my contemporaries. Seeking to minimise any possibility of friction between their two offspring they settled for a kind of sibling apartheid: supplying each child with its own separate stock of toys, its own separate bedroom and television set, and even feeding them at separate mealtimes. With their paths so rarely crossing during their childhood, is it any wonder that the siblings arrive in their mid-teens neither knowing nor particularly caring much about each other, the sum total of their relationship indifference?

A child really does need at least a couple of siblings in order to enjoy life properly; it sparks off better role-playing

games. Better mischief too. With a third party always on hand to confide in, commiserate with or heap all the blame upon, quarrels become self-healing.

Mother gets to know what's going on, too. It is so much easier to teach the rudiments of social behaviour to a whole gaggle of children, as for example at mealtimes, with three or more pairs of elbows, of varying sizes, moving in unison in a confined space, the need for good table manners becomes plain good sense.

When the twins made their appearance I was warned that they could be the cause of sibling rivalries. Instead they were a source of endless amusement to the three others, the two older ones immediately assuming the roles of guardian-cum-courtesy jesters to the new babies. They were almost beside themselves with proud delight the day I asked them to help me to feed them.

Sitting side by side on the sofa, cushions on their laps, the two of them clasped a twin each firmly in their arms and plied them expertly with the bottles of baby milk. Meanwhile, their two-year-old sister stood watching the proceedings with rapt attention and not the least hint of jealousy.

As for the twins themselves, having spent the nine months of their pre-born lives sleeping, waking and rollicking together, it was only natural that they continued to love one another dearly after their birth. It made my heart ache to see them sleeping peacefully end to end in their cradle, and, later on, in their cot, their tiny toes comfortably entwined with each other's.

Known familiarly as "the twinnies", there was nevertheless no doubt about their very different personalities. They may have looked fairly similar as babies, but the necessity of wearing their older siblings' hand-me-downs ensured that none of us had any problem telling them apart.

I mentioned "television" earlier on and, like Roald Dahl, I loathe the "idiot thing" and agree with him that it is an unmitigated disaster so far as children are concerned. "It rots the senses in the head!" It



The Gillick family pictured in the 1980s: so many children and always so much to do. There was no television but the youngsters had imagination and each other to play with

kills the imagination dead!" roared a Dahl character in *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*.

Mercifully, we never had one of these ridiculous machines in our home, and consequently the children — all ten of them — had very lively imaginations indeed, and employed them every waking hour of the day, putting flesh on the bones of fantasy, as they played up hill and down dale together.

In doing so, inevitably, they

came to know and like one another, to understand and forgive each other's weaknesses and to admire their achievements. Even now, as young adults, their clearest and happiest memories of childhood are of the wonderful games and secret adventures they played together in those far-off days, when the bonds of sibling friendship were forged.

Let anyone imagine that this seeming idyll came about by pure chance, or that the heavenly harmony was never

once discordant, I should perhaps mention that if our boisterous brood of cherubs had not been chivvied from dawn till dusk on the ways of self-discipline, kindness and justice, things may well have turned out very differently with them.

And, yes, of course there were occasional outbursts of passion, which though never condoned, were sometimes wholly understandable. As for example, when an irritable adolescent lad, exhausted after

a hard day's growing, hurled fierce maledictions and a well-aimed boot across the bedroom, at the doublet of younger brothers giggling uncontrollably into the small hours.

Less understandable were the two sisters, red in tooth and claw found wrestling together over the rightful ownership of a pair of frilly knickers. Throughout all the hurly-burly years of growing up, boys never came to actual blows with each other. Fight-

ing, of the vicious, unforgiving and habit-forming kind, was simply not allowed. Besides which, the children had known enough families where this sort of fraternal brutality had become the norm, and they regarded it with disgust and contempt.

When my eldest children complained, with some justification, that I was far less strict with the little ones than I had been with them in their younger days, my stock reply was: "Well, you didn't have a whole

gang of older brothers and sisters bearing down on your misdemeanours all the time, did you?"

In time, the fledglings were strong enough to fly the nest (although they return home often enough) so that our family began to shrink in size, year by year. Now there are less than half of them left, and already the youngest is steeling herself for the day when she becomes an "only child".

VICTORIA GILICK



Barbara Castle aged two, bottom right, with brother, sister and young friends

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'Your third child is your gift to the world - your adventure'

AS THE youngest of three children, I never had any doubt that I was the luckiest.

My mother, a romantic, gasped excitedly when she saw wisps of red hair on her baby's head. "Your third child is your gift to the world," she crooned.

This was a bit hard on my brother and sister, particularly Marie, the eldest. She and my brother, Jimmy, had my father's big stature and almost black hair. I was petite like my mother, though she was ash blonde, so I must have inherited my red hair from further back.

Being the youngest meant that things came more easily to me. This, I am sure, is to do with the fact that my mother had already had two children and the tension of parenting had worn off. She knew how to look after a baby and did not treat me like a piece of china. Instead she could relax and enjoy me.

As the baby of the family, I was also sheltered from domestic worries — which were normally about money — so I rarely felt burdened with responsibility. This gave me a light-hearted and carefree temperament from an early age. I was able to pursue all my favourite hobbies, such as reading and poetry. I was also frivolous, loved pretty clothes and dancing.

I strongly believe that women are born warriors and often they take their responsibilities so seriously they become too tense to perform. I

am sure that being sheltered from a great deal of anxiety as a child helped me later on, especially with public speaking. I would never call myself cocky and I was always a little nervous, but my underlying attitude remained relaxed.

In contrast, my sister, Marjorie, was the serious one. She had a heavy sense of duty, especially in relation to the family. She was more aware than my brother and I of the financial difficulties facing our family, which frequently led to rows. My father, though a kind man at heart, had a violent temper and could reduce my mother to tears.

Later in life, I discovered that my sister used to stand outside our parents' bedroom door in her nightie trembling



Castle: sheltered

when she heard them argue. She also felt she had to shield her little sister from such storms.

My father was an uncompromising intellectual. He was an adamant socialist with extremely high standards. One day he asked us what we wanted to do when we grew up. I replied that I wanted to do well for myself. My father was furious, accusing me of being interested in nothing but money.

Then, I felt like rebelling and I remember writing a defiant poem. I swore that one day I would come back rich and famous and share what I had with everyone.

when she heard them argue. She also felt she had to shield her little sister from such storms.

I am amazed that my sister did not feel more resentment towards me when we were young. I was out having all the fun and chosen at school for public speaking competitions, while she was considered rather a swot and a blue stocking. I am very lucky that she didn't mind. Even in later life, whenever I was in an emotional crisis, I would ring my sister, pleading for her to come and comfort me. She always came. I used to wonder sometimes how I would manage if she were not there.

As well as carrying the weight of family responsibility on her shoulders, Marjorie also took our family values very seriously. She was religious and worked hard to be a high achiever academically.

My father was an uncompromising intellectual. He was an adamant socialist with extremely high standards. One day he asked us what we wanted to do when we grew up. I replied that I wanted to do well for myself. My father was furious, accusing me of being interested in nothing but money.

Then, I felt like rebelling and I remember writing a defiant poem. I swore that one day I would come back rich and famous and share what I had with everyone.

BARBARA CASTLE



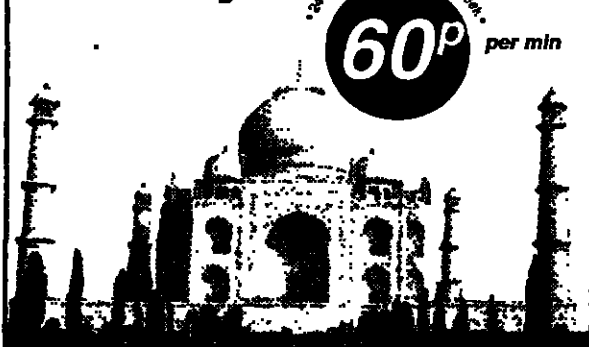
TOMORROW

John Mortimer reflects on the disadvantages of being an only child, while Valerie Grove detects benefits in being the eldest



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ARTS THE WEEK AHEAD



■ VISUAL ART
Through an immigrant's eye: Mexican artist Gabriel Orozco comes to the ICA
OPEN: Now
REVIEW: Tomorrow



■ THEATRE
At Chichester Alan Bates stars in the British premiere of Turgenev's *Fortune's Fool*
OPENS: Tomorrow
REVIEW: Thursday



■ MUSIC
Back at the Proms: Abbado brings the Berlin Philharmonic to the Albert Hall
CONCERTS: Wed, Thur
REVIEWS: Fri, Sat



■ DANCE
Songs by Prince, steps by the Joffrey Ballet: *Billboards* comes to the Festival Hall
OPENS: Wednesday
REVIEW: Friday

Still dancing the tango

Bernardo Bertolucci tells Matt Wolf why his new film, *Stealing Beauty*, is a response to his most notorious work

After many years spent making epic-scale films in exotic locales, and winning both Oscars and critical brickbats for them, the 56-year-old director Bernardo Bertolucci has returned to his native Italy with his new film, *Stealing Beauty*. To judge from the calm expression on his face, it's good to be back. "After three big movies I was thinking of doing something small," Bertolucci says. "I wanted to tip-toe back to Italy, enter through the back door, because I didn't feel ready to do a movie about the Italian situation of the moment."

Stealing Beauty does not leave contemporary Italy unacknowledged, however, and although its Tuscan setting has a familiar Merchant-Ivory ripeness, Bertolucci's treatment avoids cliché. (The startling credit sequence makes that point clear at once, as does the camerawork of Dariusz Khondji, who shot *Seyen*.)

The story refers in passing to the emergence of television aerials marking an otherwise unspoilt vista; the incursion of the Berlusconi media age on a community keen to leave that world at bay.

But Bertolucci's real topic is the almost Chekhovian interplay among the expatriates gathered in Tuscany one particular summer at the home of an artist (Donal McCann) and his wife (Sinead Cusack). "They have created on that hill a kind of little Olympus for minor gods," Bertolucci says, "surrounded by a world of beauty that allows them to be protected from the roughness and vulgarity of life." That the roughness does intrude has little to do with turbulent Italian politics and everything to do with emotional upheaval.

Lucy Harmon, a young American played by Liv Tyler, the sensation of this year's Cannes Film Festival when *Stealing Beauty* was shown there, arrives from America thinking she wants sex when what she really craves is love. As the Jean Marais character tells her, stealing a line from Jean Cocteau, "there is no such thing as love, only proof of love". It is Harmon's task to learn to mediate between the two.

Beyond Chekhov, Bertolucci invokes Henry James as a chronicler of comparable rites of passage of Americans abroad. "James has all these young American girls — pioneer spirits — coming to Europe, and their contact with Europe makes them

both strong and fragile." Among those competing for Lucy's affections are McCann's avid sculptor, for whom Lucy models; Jeremy Irons as a dying playwright, and American stage actor D.W. Moffett as a visiting cad whose attentions shift from girlfriend Rachel Weisz once Harmon arrives.

The screenplay, by the American novelist Susan Minot, was rooted in Bertolucci's own past. "I was in Tuscany one summer many years ago. Also there was a young English girl and we were all fantasising about whether she was a virgin, so I went back to the seed of that experience. I wanted somebody who could be parachuted there from another world — a girl who, while she's waking up, awakens the others because they are all asleep."

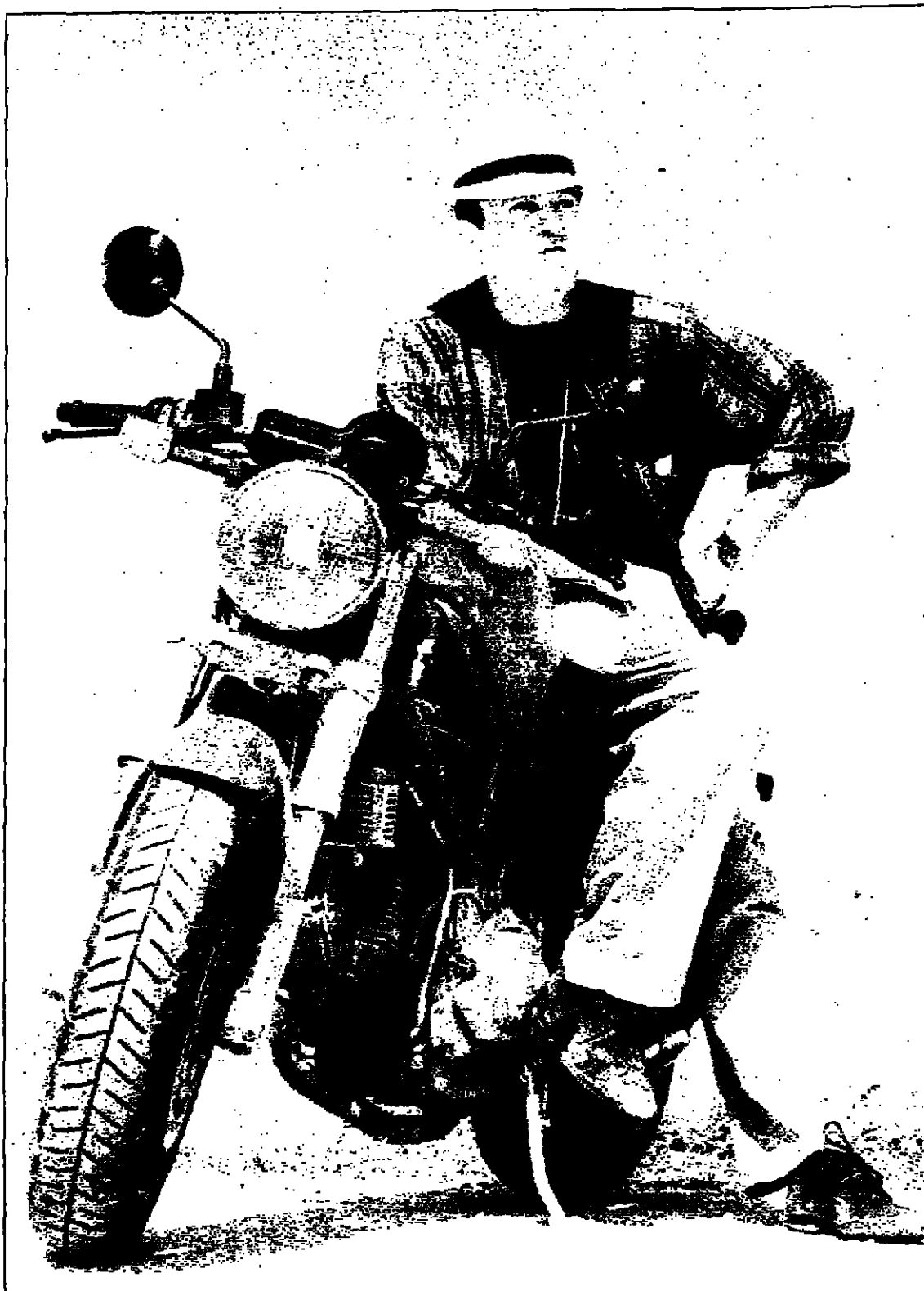
Unusually for Bertolucci in recent years, the new film is highly actor-led, which is more than the seed of that experience. I wanted somebody who could be parachuted there from another world — a girl who, while she's waking up, awakens the others because they are all asleep."

Each of the films bears witness to the reality of when it was made

one could say for *Little Buddha*, with Keanu Reeves, or even *The Sheltering Sky*, in which John Malkovich and Debra Winger were eclipsed by the North African sun. Indeed, it is worth noting that of the nine Oscars won in 1987 by *The Last Emperor* — the film won in every category in which it was nominated — no mention was ever made of the actors: the scenery was star.

Casting Harmon was the pivotal challenge. With Tyler, Bertolucci says, "I was fascinated by the fact that suddenly she was 13 and then she was 22 and then she was 17. That seemed to me typical of girls who have not yet found their age or their identity. I thought 'If I can catch that during the shoot, it will be fantastic — that feeling of a woman in progress, of a girl becoming a woman.'" (The director got an unexpected bonus when it became known that the situation of Tyler's own parentage mirrors that of her film character.)

Stealing Beauty has echoes of Bertolucci's previous work. In fact, it could be seen as a response to *Last Tango in Paris*. "They are kind of complementary," Bertolucci admits, "but each one bears witness to the reality of when it was made. In *Last Tango* the boy and girl wanted to get rid of virginity because virginity was an impediment to this hunger for life and freedom. Today it is the opposite: sex is connected to death, but not in the literary sense. The myth of transgression is finished; it's much more about reconciliation."



The furore caused by *Last Tango in Paris* made Bernardo Bertolucci an outcast in his own country

It was *Last Tango*, of course, that led to Bertolucci's ambivalence towards Italy. The film was banned, its director condemned (in America, conversely, he was nominated for an Oscar for it), and he was stripped of his voting rights from 1975 to 1980. During the 1980s, he said, "there was this horrible feeling around the country so that I couldn't possibly

think of doing a movie there. That's why I went as far away as possible — to China and Bhutan."

Still, he takes solace in the fact that Italy has embraced *Stealing Beauty* — the film was more warmly received there than in America, where it opened in June — and he likes its different Italian title, which translates as *Dancing By Myself*. "It's a

kind of declaration of independence of this girl."

Stealing Beauty, incidentally, caused a fuss when lawyers for the Walt Disney company complained that the title should not be used because "it sounds too much like *Steeping Beauty*". Bertolucci's response? "I had a good laugh."

● *Stealing Beauty* opens on Friday

BBC PROMS: Premieres, and *Lulu*

Love, death and a forest journey

OPENING the first of Thursday's two Proms with the Prelude and Liebestod from Wagner's *Tristan und Isolde*, Claus Peter Flor lost no time in making his mark. He has a way of turning a phrase back on itself, of altering its character by subjecting it to a change of dynamic or delaying its resolution. It is a high-risk strategy in music like this that is already tingling with sensitive nerve-endings. But it worked, not least because the strings and wind of the BBC Symphony Orchestra were so responsive.

The same was true of Beethoven's Piano Concerto No 3 in C minor, where lucid textures and clearly executed phrasing combined to make a delightfully fresh reading. Against this orchestral backdrop, Andreas Haefliger contributed an authoritative but always elegant solo.

Siegfried Matthäus's tone poem *Der Wald* (The Forest), receiving its UK premiere, promised a soul-searching trip into the German psyche — the forest being the archetypal site of Romanticism. But anyone expecting the journey to be an exercise in Post-Modernist nostalgia, accompanied by Weberian horn-calls, would have been disappointed. Such motifs did occur, but this was mostly a very low-key, severely introspective dialogue for timpani soloist (the accomplished Heiner Herzog) and orchestra.

Anything but introspective was the item that brought the concert to a resounding close: Bruckner's *Te Deum*. The well-drilled chorus was that of the Philharmonia, the excellent soloists Yvonne Kenny, Catherine Wyn-Rogers, Thomas Randle and Peter Sidhom.

The late Prom opened with the sharp, metallic col-

BBC SO/
Netherlands
Wind Ensemble
Albert Hall/Radio 3

ours of Messiaen's *Oiseaux exotiques* rendered by the pianist Peter Donohoe with the admirable Netherlands Wind Ensemble under Daniel Harding. But it was Mozart's Serenade in C minor, K388, that best demonstrated the players' facility for effecting sharp contrasts of dynamic and colour.

They could also be exquisitely refined, when they chose, as in the Andante with its overlapping voices. And the final Allegro neatly brought the two modes together: nocturnal aria and busy counterpoint with ebullient horns.

The outdoor spirit returned in Stravinsky's Octet: the first movement summons the atmosphere of carnival and the second even has a touch of *Petrushka*. All this, and the gentle rhythmic swing of the finale, was beautifully judged.

With Kevin Volans's Concerto for Piano and Wind Instruments, a BBC commission receiving its UK premiere, it was back to the world of Messiaen. The opening section is impressive: hard-edged metallic sonorities and chattering woodwind play against a piano texture and rich brass sounds redolent of, say, a Tchaikovsky concerto. But the context is one of extreme rhythmic complexity and driving energy. When that energy dissipates, as it does over the course of the concerto, the shallowness of the ideas is unkindly revealed.

BARRY MILLINGTON

All in the ear

Lulu
Albert Hall/Radio 3

KEEP your ears open and your eyes shut. That was the advice offered on this page when Graham Vick's new production of Berg's *Lulu* opened at Glyndebourne in July. And that was doubtless exactly what many did on Friday in the privacy of their homes when Glyndebourne Festival Opera came to the Proms, and *Lulu* was broadcast on Radio 3.

Even in the Albert Hall itself, the keenest pleasure was for the ear. The exquisite phrasing and chaste ecstasy of Christine Schäfer's soprano in the title role circled high and clear round the dome, and was doubtless in near-perfect balance with the orchestra when heard on the radio. Andrew Davis's dedicated and invigorating recreation of the score integrated a rich palette of voices into its broader canvas with perception and aplomb.

Dialogue leapt to life. David Kuebler's tenor brought a yearning tension into the soul of Alwa; Wolfgang Schöne was a chillingly eloquent Dr Schön; Kathryn Harries's Countess Geschwitz was austere and ardent right up to the last note of her monologue of monotonies. The London Philharmonic itself came into its glorious own over-ground, as it were: the Interlude

between scenes two and three of Act 1 and the Variations which precede Act III scene 2 were gripping dramas in their own right.

If one opened one's eyes, on the other hand, there were also rewards. Graham Vick's is not the most dramatically searing of productions: characters are at times under-profiled, under-motivated, and Matthew Richardson's semi-staging for the Proms maintained the one-dimensional quasi-realism which is, paradoxically, peculiarly appropriate to this Expressionist work.

It was at times rather like watching a homespun morality, tightly concentrated into the tiny sloping apron stage; at others — particularly in the party scenes — like observing an Otto Dix painting animated. Poor Sir Henry Wood had a clown beat a big bass drum into his ears, and was later totally obliterated by *Lulu*'s portrait. He, on his plinth, and one or two others besides, were interested enough in the experiment, but somewhat relieved that it was a one-night stand.

HILARY FINCH

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In New York Jamie James reviews the inaugural Lincoln Centre Festival

New York's Lincoln Centre has always resembled a little postage-stamp country, a cultural duchy, rather than a conventional arts centre. There are so many overlapping and conflicting bailiwicks. The Met and the New York Philharmonic are the grands seigneurs, with a host of younger companies also in residence, from the great New York City Ballet to a scrappy little chamber music society — not to mention self-enterprising such as Midsummer Night Swing, which every summer transforms the plaza into an outdoor dance-hall for old people.

Yet it has never had a proper international festival until now. The Lincoln Centre Festival, just concluded, has been America's largest ever multidisciplinary celebration of the arts, with a budget of \$8.5 million. Directed by former New York Times music critic John Rockwell, it was an eclectic, even eccentric event, offering everything from John Eliot Gardiner's period-instrument Beethoven to Vietnamese water puppets and gospel.

The festival began with a bizarre programme of official Soviet music, performed by Valery Gergiev and the Kirov Orchestra. Shostakovich's Symphony No 11 is not usually considered festival fare, but what came after was even stranger: Prokofiev's *Canтата for the Twentieth Anniversary of the October Revolution*, setting bombastic texts by Marx, Lenin and Stalin to music of a truncheon-like subtlety, with thundering choral parts and solo turns for accordion and a member of the chorus who shouted slogans. The musical star of the festival was John Eliot Gardiner and the Orchestra Révolutionnaire et Romantique, which gave a series of Beethoven concerts. The Ninth Symphony was a national TV

Big bite of culture for Big Apple

broadcast, but the real highlight was an electrifying *Missa Solemnis*. The third programme was devoted to Gardiner's semi-staged reconstruction of *Leonore*, which he performed last week at the Proms.

Sandwiched between the two performances of *Leonore*, Kurt Masur led the New York Philharmonic in the opera it became: *Fidelio*, with Deborah Voigt and Gary Lakes. Other Philharmonic concerts included a raw, powerful performance of the finale of Strauss's *Salome* by Maria Ewing, programmed with Hindemith, and a rare opportunity to hear Morton Feldman's *Structures*. (The festival's only cancelled event was a projected performance of Feldman's six-hour String Quartet II, by the Kronos Quartet.)

On the festival's penultimate night, the Philharmonic gave an evening of music based on *Romeo and Juliet*, with rich, lovely performances of excerpts from the Prokofiev ballet and Tchaikovsky's fantasy-overture. Bernstein's Symphonic Dances from *West Side Story* lacked the full measure of swing, though the man from Leipzig deserves credit for conducting a work

known so well to this audience from the composer's own performances.

Easily the hottest tickets of the festival were for a complete cycle of Samuel Beckett plays staged by the Gate Theatre of Dublin. The company performed all 19 in two theatres, one small and the other tiny. The London-based Theatre de Complicité's *Three Lives of Lucie Cabrol* also scored a major success. Its visceral, inventive brand of epic theatre was a revelation to a city in which the stage has increasingly become the province of the minor, the quirky, and the ghetto.

Dance was represented by an updated, sexed-up *Coppelia* by the Lyons Opera Ballet, choreographed by Maguy Marin. Merce Cunningham's company performed an innovative piece called *Ocean*, in which the audience surrounded the dancers, and were themselves circled by a huge orchestra. And Wynton Marsalis, the director of jazz at Lincoln Centre, collaborated with choreographer Judith Jamison of the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre on a new work called *Sweet Release*, which was coolly received.

The final evening was billed as a gala tribute to Yehudi Menuhin, but the atmosphere in the hall was glum. There were 14 premieres of short pieces by well-known composers, all dedicated to Menuhin, who conducted the Orchestra of St Luke's. Lukas Foss, Philip Glass, Arvo Pärt, Steve Reich, Foday Musa Suso, John Tavener and Jannis Xenakis were among those who contributed snippet-like works (some adapted from existing compositions). While many might have worked if performed as part of a mixed programme, as this concert wore on the cumulative effect was increasingly minimal.



Wynton Marsalis's *Sweet Release*, a collaboration with choreographer Judith Jamison, was a festival premiere

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MUSICAL
Marvin Hamlisch's tunes ring out again as Derby Playhouse stages *A Chorus Line*
OPENS: Wednesday
REVIEW: Friday



FILMS
Radiant in Tuscany: Bertolucci's *Stealing Beauty* introduces the 18-year-old Liv Ullmann
OPENS: Friday
REVIEW: Thursday



OPERA
At the Edinburgh Festival, Pina Bausch directs Gluck's *Iphigénie auf Tauris*
OPENS: Friday
REVIEW: Monday



BOOKS
Regent's Park is the setting for Ruth Rendell's new mystery, *The Keys to the Street*
IN THE SHOPS: Now
REVIEW: Saturday

ARTS
TUESDAY TO FRIDAY
IN SECTION 2

EDINBURGH FESTIVAL: A world premiere for James MacMillan's first opera; plus concerts



The final scene of James MacMillan's opera: "There is throughout an air of sickly religious Grand Guignol which one could very well do without"

Words, words, words

The premiere of James MacMillan's first opera, *Inés de Castro*, was received with rapture in Edinburgh last week. He is a folk hero in Scottish musical circles in general and the Festival in particular, and this created a tangible atmosphere of nationalist fervour. The smallest demerit, you felt, especially from someone south of the border, might have resulted in a lynching. But by the cold light of the keyboard and behind locked doors, I venture to suggest that *Inés* is not exactly flawless.

The fact that MacMillan composes in a neo-Romantic idiom is no problem: that is his choice, and he does it confidently and resourcefully, though it does seem odd to compose as though not a lot has happened in Western music since, say, 1918. He admits to his admiration of *Tristan*, *Wozzeck* and *Salome*, and it is the last-named whose influence is felt most strongly, not to

say blatantly. And that, apart from brief homage to Shostakovich and a sudden, infinitely dispiriting outbreak of Lloyd Webber, is where MacMillan stops. No, the real problem is the libretto, drawn (by whom? the score is vague) from John Clifford's play of the same name, successfully performed at the Traverse some years back. *Inés* was the Spanish mistress of Pedro, heir to the Portuguese throne, and mother of his children; they were murdered in 1355 for political reasons during a war with Spain. The persecution and death of a woman: a perfect subject for Donizetti or Puccini, but both would have sent back this recklessly verbose libretto, like Miss Adelaide's mink, whence it came, with a sharp note demanding motivation, character development, or dramatic conflict.

Nothing much happens: we know poor *Inés* is doomed from the start, and so she is; the King hovers endlessly; his adviser, the murderer Pacheco, is merely a pastiche villain; there is little chance for any of them to develop given the number of subsidiary characters and narrative episodes of marginal relevance. With so many words, MacMillan only has time to illustrate, after the manner of a composer for film, rather than lead and control.

The only character to develop is Pedro, and he goes spectacularly mad, having Pacheco gruesomely executed and *Inés*'s five-year-old corpse exhumed and crowned. There is throughout an air of sickly religious Grand Guignol which one could very well do without. A quarter of "ordinary people", who could also be developed, is used largely as a narrative device as held as Britten's *Blind Beggar* in *Gloriana*. This is a first draft of a libretto; it should never have been set.

Inés is extremely well performed by Scottish Opera, who commissioned it. Richard Armstrong and the orchestra give the score its head, milk it for romantic colour, yet take infinite care over balance: all the words are audible, *hélas*. There is not much that the director Jonathan Moore can do with something so dramatically inert apart from act out some of the narrations. All the cast deserve medals. MacMillan writes for the voice of a Strauss, and Helen Field (*Inés*) and Jeffrey Lawton (*Pedro*) soar up to Bs and Cs with heroic abandon. Anne Collins is beautifully grave as the Nurse-doubling Death, Jack Strauch is the smiling, demented villain, Stafford Dean does what he can (not much) with the King, and Christopher Purves gives a virtuoso turn narrating the villain's execution. The Scottish Opera Chorus is especially vibrant.

ment in a characteristic Brian McMaster anticipation of a major anniversary (the Brahms centenary falls next year) cast the pianist in a not entirely congenial role. His relationship with the conductor and orchestra, in spite of one or two insecurities, was happy enough. The problem was in matching the physique of the performance to the size of the Brahms gesture, particularly in the turbulent first movement of the Concerto in D minor. But if Schiff's interpretations were underpowered, they were abundant in poetic insight, in freshness of colouring and in manifestations of wit.

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Matthew Parris



■ Why do caravans not attract a tax levy? I believe I have identified strange political factors which explain it all

There are things that would be indefensible were they not time-honoured. Being time-honoured, they are considered unassailable. Our Sunday trading laws fell into this category, unassailable until assailed. Now it baffles us why they were not assailed before.

So why — on this Bank Holiday Monday of all days — does one approach the argument for levying road tax on caravans with a sense of complete futility?

If you suspect the immensity of one of those unprovoked diatribes against the caravan which characterises a columnist with nothing to write about, take heart. I like caravanning. My dad is a convert and his family — we were six children and sceptical converts when younger — had their eyes opened to the pleasures and savings of the open road and cosy trailer.

I would therefore defend to the death your right to caravan. But for your right to haul these marvels at 30mph on a congested road network all summer, there can be no defence. Instead of labouring an obvious

The cusp is their natural habitat... they could go either way

toilet block for regulation, collective provision of services, noise control and a certain friendly uniformity. Margaret Beckett, Britain's First Lady of caravanning and a convert from old Labour to new, leads the way. Old-style socialists used to camp and hike and go on cycling holidays. But "there is no going back to the past", as Mr Blair likes to say, perceptively. Labour's caravan is moving on.

With both main parties, then, wooing the caravan vote, how have Liberal Democrats persuaded themselves that it could be theirs? The answer is clear. Some people are socialists, and some are capitalists, but Liberal Democrats are something in between. Some people stay in hotels, and some people stay at home, but caravanners stay somewhere in between. Paddy Ashdown has looked into the whites of the caravanners' eyes and spotted, at the very core of his apparently secure personality, a terrible hesitation, a profound internal indecision. "One of ours," mutters the great commando.

And could he, too, be right? Like those who drive three-wheel cars, caravanners are people in transition. They could go either way — or, more likely, remain trembling on the brink. Caravanning is not the only distinguishing mark. People who wear cardigans — not quite jersey, not quite jacket — are the caravanner's natural soulmates. Flower boxes — not quite gardens — are another giveaway. So are timeshares. So is mini-golf — not quite golf. So are flame-effect heaters. So are shutters which do not shut, and crazy paving which isn't quite crazy and isn't really slate. Short-sleeved shirts and slacks — hesitantly informal, but not quite T-shirts and jeans — suggest the same trait. Budgets, goldfish and bird tables betray a householder who does not quite want a pet, nor quite to be without one. Bonsai trees mark the forerunner whose nerve has faltered. People whose nerve falters up political balances at elections.

The human type I have in mind hardly wears his hesitation on his sleeve. On the contrary, he tends to enforce on the visible part of his life a rigorous order. But what lies beneath is shot through with a fatal streak of indecision. So if you chance to meet a caravanner in a short-sleeved shirt, window boxes adding a splash of colour to his crazy-paved forecourt, contemplating a timeshare but planning a short caravan holiday this September and wondering who will feed the budgie and water the bonsai while he is away... then tell the people at MORI. This person's intentions are all a polisher needs to know.

But to those who labour at the Labour HQ in Walworth Road, these are the very birds to whom Tony Blair is holding out an open hand of corn. New Labour should strike a chord with them. Community values infuse life in the crowded caravan park, and there is a hankering-down at the

Bill Clinton believes that attacking smoking will be bad for the health of his political opponents

The President who hates to inhale

I do not think anyone who has actually given up smoking doubts that it is addictive. I started smoking in 1947, when I was doing my National Service in the RAF. The trigger was the announcement by Hugh Dalton, the Labour Chancellor of the Exchequer, that he was putting up the cigarette tax by a shilling to three shillings and fourpence a pack, in order to save dollars. My reaction, as a 19-year-old, was that I was not going to be dictated to by Hugh Dalton. My other motive was to alleviate the boredom of Service life, which has so many minute breaks when there is nothing else to do. I had already experimented with tobacco when I was at Charterhouse, smoking large cheap cigars in the back of the Farncombe cinema and watching the early Lauren Bacall films.

In 1950 the first medical reports to link smoking to lung cancer were published. I read them in the *Lancet*, which was then taken by the Oxford Union, presumably for the medical students. The statistical correlation was plain enough, and has never been refuted in hundreds of subsequent studies. I was 21, and I decided that my chances of living for another 40 or 50 years depended, to a significant degree, on giving up smoking. It was not until 1953 that I succeeded in doing so.

In the meantime, I went on a debating tour of the United States with Dick Taverne, who later invented new Labour 20 years before its time. I smoked my way around America, and found no one who thought it odd or objected to passive smoking from my cigarettes. These were the great days of tobacco advertising. Camels were the leading brand, a tough soldier's smoke which was fashionable in the postwar environment when Bob Dole was still a young veteran recovering from his wounds. I think it was Camels which

had the outrageously untruthful slogan, "Not a Cough in a Carload". I tried to give up several times. I never derived great satisfaction from smoking. I can still remember some pleasure from the mixture of the nicotine effect with other mild mood-altering drugs. I used to enjoy my first cigarette with a cup of tea in the morning. We had a downstairs bar at the *Financial Times*, and I enjoyed my first evening cigarette with a drink after clearing the day's article with Gordon Newton, my Editor. From the other 20 cigarettes I smoked each day, I got no pleasure, except the maintenance of a habit.

In the end, it was the great London fog of 1953, the last of the pea-soupers, that cured me. It settled on my lungs — it was said to have killed 20,000 people — with an oily bituminous taste. I could no more have faced a cigarette than I could have run up the steps of the Monument. That lasted for a fortnight. At the end of the fortnight I thought I would be mad to start again, ever. The fortnight became a month; in a year I knew I was free: it is now 43 years. I am within five years of the age at which my father, who belonged to the generation before the first cancer warnings, died of emphysema and tobacco-related circulatory problems. At about my present age, he found he could no longer walk the 200 yards from his home to his office in Somerset. I reckon that the *Lancet* and the fog saved my life.

No doubt people have different metabolisms; some people find it relatively easy to give up a nicotine addiction. Others find it much harder, and some find it virtually impossible, even when they have already reached an advanced stage of one or other of the tobacco diseases. That is the character of all addictions. Some people can break a heroin addiction, but that does not mean that heroin is not an addictive substance.

Last week Clive Turner, an executive director of BAT, said that the fact

that 11 million people in the United Kingdom have managed to give up smoking indicated that it was not addictive. He added lamely that "it depends how you define addiction". No one defines addiction as a habit which 100 per cent of people find it impossible to break. Nothing has done the tobacco industry's reputation more harm than the use by its spokesmen of obviously fallacious arguments for obviously self-serving ends.

William Rees-Mogg

Bill Clinton was certainly right last Friday to accept the verdict of the Food and Drug Administration that

nicotine is an addictive drug. The leaders of the American industry have maintained that it is not, although their own studies have shown, for 30, perhaps for 60, years, that nicotine is addictive. Bob Dole himself has until recently taken the position that nicotine was not necessarily addictive, and his wife has been reduced to protesting that he has always said that "children should not smoke". What presidential candidate has ever said that children should smoke? The President has gained an electoral advantage in a United States that is increasingly coming to regard the big tobacco companies as "merchants of death".

In America, there is now a widespread desire to see the tobacco companies punished, and punished in the most financially extravagant way. John Grisham is one of America's bestselling novelists, possibly now the bestselling of them all. His latest book, *The Runaway Jury*, has a plot in which the jury has to decide whether to award massive damages against a tobacco company. The tobacco companies are portrayed in a sinister and conspiratorial light.

One character puts the case against them in what are the key sentences of the book: "I'm convinced cigarettes are dangerous and deadly; they kill 400,000 people a year; they're loaded with nicotine by the makers, who've known for a long time that the stuff is addictive; they could be a lot safer if the companies wanted, but the nicotine would be reduced and thus sales would suffer. I think cigarettes killed Jacob Wood, and none of you will argue this. I'm convinced the tobacco companies lie and cheat and cover up, and do everything in their power to get kids to smoke. They're a ruthless bunch of sonofabitches, and I say we stick it to them."

No author has a better sense of the current mood of America than Grisham: no politician has a better feel for it than Mr Clinton. No doubt the legal battle will continue to swing one way and another — the tobacco companies will still win some of the verdicts, as they did in Indiana on Saturday. But the awards have started and the damages will grow, as they did in the asbestosis cases which made such a large contribution to the disaster at Lloyd's.

Mr Clinton is a master of electoral politics. Until now, the tobacco lobby has secured political protection by its campaign donations and its weight in the tobacco states. He has now calculated that the balance of political advantage is to run against tobacco: that is where he thinks the votes are. If the votes are on that side in the nation, that is also where they will increasingly be in the jury room. It may serve no useful purpose to ruin the big US tobacco companies; no one proposes to prohibit cigarettes; but that is what the American legal system, backed by the President, is poised to achieve. As Grisham puts it: "The first time a jury handed out a few million to a widow, all hell would break loose. Lawyers would go berserk with their non-stop advertising, begging smokers and the survivors of smokers to sign up now and sue while the suing was good." Mr Clinton's announcement could break the legal dam which the US tobacco manufacturers have built against the multimillion-dollar lawsuits.

So far, he has, to be fair, admirably kept his nerve. When the Republicans carried all before them in the mid-term elections of 1994 — and New Gingrich's Contract with America began to look like some modern Declaration of Independence — the temptation to backpedal must have been considerable. Yet, with the exception of one bad wobble — over the proposed title of "the road to the manifesto" — the temptation has been resisted. Mr Blair, as he demonstrated by his successful trip to Washington and New York last April, has never sought to back down on his hands-across-the-sea alliance with the new Democrats that he, rather than John Smith, initiated.

It begins to look as if his courage has paid off. Bill Clinton comes to his ritual coronation in Chicago this week in far better shape than anyone could have predicted after that Black Tuesday of the mid-term elections 22 months ago. Like the Kennedys, he seems to believe that in politics pacing is all — and he has paced himself admirably.

Last week, in the aftermath of the Republicans' own successful convention at San Diego, Mr Clinton even began to use the White House as "the bully pulpit" that Theodore Roosevelt declared it should always properly be. As he made modest advances in healthcare, took welfare off the inter-party agenda and went on to launch a second front against the tobacco manufacturers and in defence of the nation's children, it was impossible not to acknowledge that, whatever he may have been like as a President, he remains a first-class candidate. Who else but one of those could have come up with the implicit slogan "You shall not crucify mankind on a cross of nicotine"?

No doubt, Clinton's sheer skill as a campaigner is one of the messages that Mr Prescott, with perhaps a certain relish, will be taking back to his leader later this week.

Labour builds its Clinton links

Anthony Howard says Tony Blair is right to gamble on a Democrat win

John Prescott was here in Chicago last night, hosting what was formally called "a British Labour Reception" for Democratic convention delegates. No one could recall anything like that happening before — and, given that he was the corner of the phrase "the Clintonisation of the Labour Party" (which, four years ago, was not intended as a compliment), a certain piquancy attended the occasion.

Nevertheless, the presence of Labour's deputy leader — flanked by Senator Christopher Dodd (later this week to deliver the nominating speech for Bill Clinton) — was a vivid reminder of just how close and public the links between New Labour and President Clinton's new Democrats have become.

Tony Blair has a huge political and emotional investment in a Clinton victory on Tuesday, November 5. Of course, if the worst threatens to happen, Labour's spin-doctors will try valiantly to deny this, no doubt pointing out through gritted teeth that a Clinton defeat would at least carry the comforting rider that no incumbent administration is inviolable.

But no one should be deceived by that. If there were any genuine consolation in such a message, it has already been delivered by the defeats of Paul Keating in Australia and Felipe González in Spain in a black week for the Left last spring. Add Mr Clinton's scalp to theirs, and it would simply mean that even modern social democracy was in retreat around the world — scarcely the backdrop that New Labour would be looking for in its challenge to John Major and the Conservative Government.

Just when the US electoral process began to cast its spell over British politics, I confess to being not quite sure. President Eisenhower's two suc-



cessive mammoth victories over Adlai Stevenson in the 1950s did not, I fancy, cause any great despondency in the ranks of the British Labour Party — even if Harold Macmillan's ruthless exploitation of the general in a notorious BBC TV broadcast on the very eve of the 1959 general election provoked a good deal of resentment. There is no question, though, that John Kennedy's victory over Richard Nixon in 1960 gave much encouragement to all the Gaitskillites of the day — just as three years later his assassination in Dallas and succession by the much older Lyndon Johnson cast the then 47-year-old Harold Wilson into a real, if temporary, gloom.

Since then, most of the lessons for Labour from American politics have been largely negative ones: the corrupting effect on American liber-

als of the Vietnam War, George McGovern's failure to build "a rainbow coalition" (much derided at the time by Tony Crosland), the ineffectiveness of the Carter presidency and the direct threat to Labour's transatlantic standing by the strength of the Reagan-Thatcher axis. Only with George Bush's defeat by Mr Clinton in 1992 was some sort of equilibrium restored — and that was owed as much to Tory blunders (of which the Home Office's investigations of Clinton's personal files was easily the worst) as to any efforts by Labour to rebuild an alliance with the Democrats' enlightened wing.

Today, of course, New Labour's identification is no longer with any one section of what Clinton liked to call in the 1992 presidential election "a new generation of Democrats". Both Tony Blair and Gordon Brown,

who went out to look at that campaign (as did, rather more actively, Philip Gould, Labour's chief pollster), soon decided to swallow the medicine whole. They may have gagged on bits of it like Clinton's 1992 pledge to "uphold capital punishment", renewed in some early campaign ads last year with a promise to "expand the death penalty", but they seem to have resolved that, with very few exceptions, Clinton's "new generation of Democrats" had lighted the path down which Labour had no choice but to travel.

It is that which makes this current presidential campaign easily the most crucial ever to have taken place in terms of British politics. If Clinton fails to break the jinx that has prevented any elected Democratic President from getting re-elected since the days of FDR, it will inevitably look as

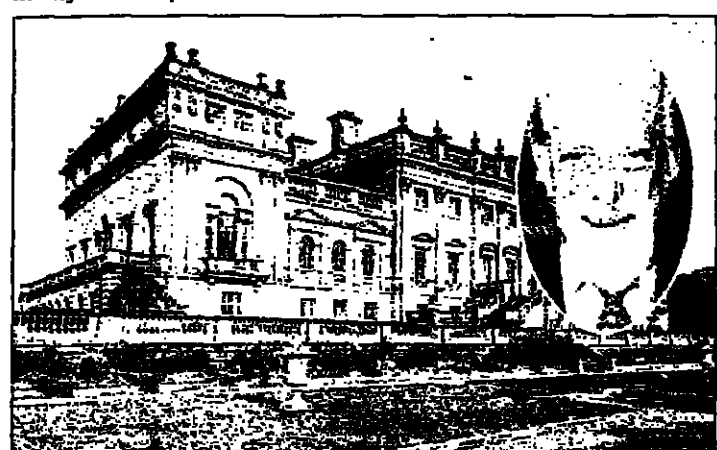
On the house

THE EARL of Harewood, first cousin of the Queen and one of the 400 richest people in the country, is after a £5 million National Lottery grant to do up his North Yorkshire home, set in thousands of acres of rolling countryside.

Along with fellow trustees of the Harewood House Trust, a charity set up to look after his mansion near Leeds, he has applied for the money to develop a conference and

visitor centre in the grounds.

Some might suggest that Lord Harewood is not a priority case for lottery cash. He is reported by *The Sunday Times* to be worth £40 million; his 18th-century Grade I listed country house is decorated with Turner, Reynolds and El Greco paintings; and experts say his Yorkshire seat contains the world's richest collection of Chippendale. Yet the Harewood House Trust



Lord Harewood and mansion: the trust has applied for National Lottery money to develop a conference and visitor centre



insists that lottery money is essential to the property's wellbeing. A trustee said yesterday: "It's certainly not for Lord Harewood's benefit in any way, shape or form. The trust was opened to develop the house and grounds for the public."

The dapper earl has recently attracted publicity because of his curious desire to see Yorkshire Television build on his estate the set for *Emmerdale*, a soap opera boasting the country's only lesbian TV vet. This, too, would be financially rewarding — some have said it could be worth £2 million.

Ch-ch-changes

DAVID BOWIE, *haut intellectuel* and artist, is a sensitive soul. I understand that he censored the dia-

ries of Brian Eno, a rock musician who has just become cultural adviser to Faber & Faber.

Eno has recently published his diaries with Faber, but before he did so, he asked his friend Bowie to glance over them. By all accounts, Bowie was impressed. But he insisted on the removal of one throwaway line. It stated that Bowie never rose from his bed before midday. What could be more damaging to a man who made his name cross-dressing?

Rock off

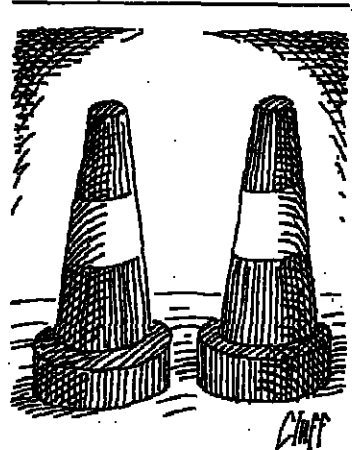
EXPECT the head-splitting thrash of amplified guitars in ugly proximity to Conservative Central Office. Iron Maiden, leather-clad rockers, are gearing up to celebrate not only 20 years in heavy metal but also possible Advertising Standards Authority condemnation of the Tories' demon-eyes campaign.

In 1980, Conservatives howled with protest at the cover illustration of the band's single, *Sanctuary*. It featured Margaret Thatcher lying on a pavement in a rucked-up miniskirt after being stabbed by the band's ghoulish salesman, Eddie the Head, who crouched over her, his knife dripping with blood.

The band was forced to change its cover, blacking out Thatcher's

eyes. The rockers now believe the demon-eyes poster campaign to be the worst form of hypocrisy. And their motto, "Iron Maiden's gonna get ya, no matter whether, whoever you are", should strike fear into Brian Mawhinney's heart.

● Cricket news: after Pakistan's huge total at the Oval yesterday, the England skipper Michael Atherton appears to be seeking less formidable opposition. He is trying to organise what I believe to be the first England tour to France next year as part of his "benefit year".



To muster enthusiasm among team-mates, he has asked the wine merchants Lay & Wheeler to help to lubricate the trip.

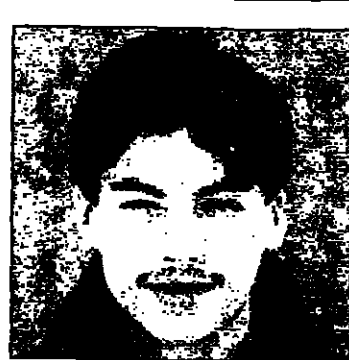
Super shopper

AFTER a modest wedding to Grace Marufu, 42 years his junior, Robert Mugabe retired with his bride to honeymoon in Cape Town. No sooner had he settled into the Presidential Suite at the Cape Sun Hotel, however, than he upped sticks for Lesotho to attend a conference, leaving his wife the credit card.

"Mrs Mugabe has made up for his absence by going shopping," says one inveterate spender. "And boy, does she know how to shop. The wedding — which had 20,000 guests — may have cost more than £400,000 and the hotel £500 a night. But this is real spending."

Hairy start

MOUSTACHES are clearly in vogue among young Russians, if pictures of Boris Yeltsin's 15-year-old grandson are anything to go by. Boris Okulov, who is to start at Millfield School in Somerset next month, has a clear case of what Daniel Rouah, a metropolitan tri-ologist, terms "burn fluff". By



Yeltsin Minor: off with the "tash"

this he means an as yet unshaven, hairy upper lip. "It is very popular among young Eastern Europeans not to start shaving until absolutely necessary," says Rouah. "They think that to have the burn fluff is a sign of manhood and impresses the girls. Personally, I think it makes the face look dirty."

While his grandfather was free to sprout facial hair at the humble Ural Polytechnic at Millfield they will be having none of Okulov's masculine experiments. Christopher Martin, the Headmaster, says: "Facial hair is not allowed. On either boys or girls."

P.H.S



CLINTON'S CONVENTION

His party needs more than a presidential victory

As Democrats gather in Chicago this week, they do so in curious condition. Two years ago they suffered a grievous defeat, losing complete control of Congress for the first time in four decades and seeing their candidates swept out of governors' mansions and state legislatures across the country. President Clinton's modest performance in office was largely held to blame. The prospects for recovery seemed remote.

Now Mr Clinton's chances look much more promising. Although his lead in the opinion polls narrowed notably after the Republicans met in San Diego, the President remains the favourite. With victory likely and disputes concerning the party platform marginal, the stage should be set for a show of unity and confidence.

But there are deeper concerns, not least because of the peculiarly distant relationship between Mr Clinton and his party. Under the guidance of Dick Morris, a political strategist mostly associated with Republicans, the White House has fought its way back since the 1994 debacle by a policy of "triangulation" — standing above the House Republicans and Democrats. While willing to raise money for its candidates, Mr Clinton has only once called upon the American people to elect a Democratic Congress and even then in cryptic terms. He appears to regard association with them as disadvantageous to his electoral interests.

The distance between President and party has created an uncertainty about what the Democrats stand for. Thirty years ago there was no question. Liberalism was in the ascendant, liberals brimmed with intellectual self-confidence and Republicans either retreated or offered only token resistance. The Democrats then thought that modern government could produce an effortlessly expanding economy, eliminate poverty, eradicate racism, win a war in Vietnam, and place a man on the Moon.

Well before their ejection from Congress, the Democrats had been forced into retreat, as their vision came to appear threadbare. From Ronald Reagan onwards, Republicans seemed to have the new ideas, and now with Newt Gingrich may almost have too many of them. The most telling obituary for old liberalism has been delivered by Mr Clinton himself, who has declared the time of big government "over" and unstitched much of the liberal inheritance.

In 1992 it was suggested that a "new Democrat" philosophy had emerged which recognised the limitations of Washington, and would marry public sector goals with private sector techniques in response. However, neither Mr Clinton's first term nor his newly published work *Between Hope and History* has really enlightened Americans, or anyone else, as to what exactly this credo is. At various times new Democrats have seemed to favour either political correctness or traditional liberalism shorn of those elements of which pollsters disapprove. More recently, Mr Clinton's actions have suggested little more than low calorie Republicanism. From tax and spending to welfare reform, the divisions in Democratic Party voting on the congressional floor reflect this basic confusion.

If ideas really matter in politics, then a Clinton victory which left Republicans commanding both Capitol Hill and the policy agenda would be a pyrrhic one. Real power in the United States does not lie in the Oval Office, as Republican Presidents from Dwight Eisenhower to George Bush could testify. Mr Clinton is an accomplished campaigner and charismatic communicator. These are vital skills in the electoral arena. But the greatest assistance he could give his party this week would be to point the way not only towards what any second term might accomplish, but what the Democrats' future role and purpose will be.

ENTERING OXFORD

University admissions statistics tell a complex story

The egalitarian impulse is still strong among the educational elite. The shadow of *Jude the Obscure* hangs over Oxford and the university has worked hard recently to open its doors to scholars from as wide a variety of backgrounds as possible. But figures revealed in *The Times* today suggest that, for all its efforts, Oxford still recruits disproportionately from independent schools. The university may be disappointed that it still seems to fish in too few pools but the figures tell a complicated story.

At first sight, the statistics confirm the strength of the independent sector. Despite a smaller number of applications (39.7 per cent to 44.2 per cent) they outgun state schools in candidates accepted (47.4 per cent to 43.6 per cent). Whereas almost three-quarters of all independent schools which submit students see at least one admitted, just over 55 per cent in the state sector are successful.

Nevertheless, Oxford is more accessible than widely believed. Potential applicants and their parents should note that over one in three of those at state schools who put themselves forward were successful and that in 1993 alone 724 non-fee-paying schools, a broad range, saw one or more candidates taken. The idea that Oxford is an impossible ambition for someone from ordinary circumstances is not borne out by a close reading of the evidence.

The various figures presented conceal much that is important. It may appear peculiar, given that under 10 per cent of all pupils are in private education, that nearly half of Oxford's intake comes from that

quarter. But the relevant comparison is among A-level students, not all students, and among those achieving grades of AAB or better in particular.

Independent schools, like Oxford applicants, are diverse. The most "over-represented" set do not appear to be grand public schools but the 100 or so remaining grammar schools whose pupils have a presence in Oxford substantially above their proportion in the population. Their superiority is far from surprising, because these schools rigorously apply academic selection.

Moreover, the numerical difference in the totals accepted from each background reflects the preponderance of public school pupils reading Classics. They are there in such numbers as a consequence of the sad decision by many comprehensives to abandon the study of Latin and Greek: a policy with adverse educational effects which go far beyond the dreaming spires.

Partly because of concern over the numbers of state school pupils who fail to reach Oxford, the university has decided to abandon its entrance examination from this autumn. Supporters of the move hope it will demystify the institution, and encourage more applications from maintained schools. But the exam allowed those who were able but had not been especially well taught to demonstrate some flair. Indeed, a system based strictly on A-level standards could produce a higher percentage from private education. A more diverse Oxford might be better served by changing attitudes rather than examinations.

SHADES OF GREEN

Foreign intervention can be in Ireland's interests

The greenest folk on the Emerald Isle appear not to be the Irish. Plans to stud Ireland's south with new developments have encountered opposition not from indigenous environmentalists but colonisers from the Continent. Germans and Dutch who have fled the grime of the Rhine and got away from it all do not want it all sprouting around them anew. It may be irksome to have incomers laying down the law and there is always something a little troubling about the German exertion of power abroad but it has to be conceded that an outside eye is sometimes required to appreciate what the native nose may sniff at.

Ireland has not always been the best steward of its own heritage. The Anglo-Irish Ascendancy built handsome houses across the island, scenes of the domestic dramas caught so touchingly in the novels of Elizabeth Bowen and Molly Keane. But now great houses are almost as rare as the Protestant families who built them. Damp, decay, taxes and Troubles have allowed the wind to whistle through the corridors where, in living memory, laughter rang.

If there was fine architecture without the Pale there was better within. From Trinity College to Kilmallick Hospital, Dublin still boasts buildings of distinction but the Sixties saw many claimed by development. Georgian Dublin was scarred and the buildings that survived were not all spared for aesthetic reasons. One Irishman who Desmond Guinness, one Irishman who stood out for the past in the face of progress, the parts of the Georgian city that still stand were "preserved by a cocoon of poverty".

Ireland has left poverty to its past. The Celtic tiger is Europe's fastest growing economy and where once it exported people it is now attracting immigrants. Many incomers have settled in Co. Cork — poignantly appropriate for it was from the great port of Cobh in that county that most of Ireland's emigrants left. But while prosperity means the population flow is inwards it also places strains on the environment.

The Beara peninsula in the uttermost south-west of Co. Cork has become the battleground for a struggle between a council anxious to see new homes and roads and foreigners keen to keep a wilderness wild. Those most attached to a nostalgic notion of Ireland have often had roots abroad. Eamon de Valera, the Irish premier who tried to revive the Gaelic and whose vision of Eire was of a land where sturdy youths and comely maidens contented themselves with hurling and weaving was himself of Spanish stock. The romantic Irish nationalists Roger Casement and Erskine Childers who died for a Gaelic state were servants of the British Crown, as diplomat and intelligence officer respectively.

Although the Dutch and German protesters in Cork are far less militant they are no less passionate about preserving the Ireland of their imagination. As Ireland takes its proper place in the front rank of Europe so Europeans may be allowed a role in Ireland's back garden. The Irish may be indomitable but their heritage, built and natural, is not. Those who seek to save it honour the Burkean bond between this generation and those unborn.

Prison Service as 'political football'

From the General Secretary of the Association of Chief Officers of Probation

Sir, It is an ironic twist that on the day that our association launches new information about the effectiveness of community sentences in comparison with prison sentences, another example of the stresses in the prison system emerges with the calamitous management of the exodus of prisoners overdue for release (report, August 23).

The position of prisons, and therefore the Prison Service, as the Home Secretary's political football has created an environment within the service where, in management terms, it cannot be expected to function properly.

Extreme political sensitivity about potentially embarrassing operational matters, rapidly increasing inmate populations, rapidly decreasing budgets and the reduction in the number of probation officers are all factors that make the effective running of the service, with its mission to help prisoners lead law-abiding lives, virtually impossible.

If "prison works" — a trite dictum under even the lightest scrutiny — underpins the new sentencing legislation planned for the new Parliament, everybody must ask whether the current state of the Prison Service gives any cause for confidence that it could cope without collapse, let alone contribute to law-abiding lives.

Yours faithfully,
MARY HONEYBALL,
General Secretary, Association of Chief Officers of Probation,
212 Whitechapel Road, E1,
August 23.

From Mr D. J. Meadows

Sir, May I make so bold as to offer a suggestion to help soothe our Home Secretary's reddened face in this latest fiasco to beset our much-maligned Prison Service?

Should the courts decide that compensation is appropriate for this apparent error, then any sums so awarded should be paid to the victims of these now seeking to gain from their deeds.

Was it not this Government that said no one should profit from their crimes?

Yours etc,
D. J. MEADOWS (staff),
HM Prison,
Preston, Lancashire,
August 24.

From Mr Martin Huggins

Sir, Surely time spent on remand is not regarded as bulk discount, to be applied to every sentence received? Logic, if not the law, can see it as no more than a down payment, to be set against the total bill.

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN HUGGINS,
13 Ainslie Place, Edinburgh 3,
August 24.

Politics of the Devil

From Mr Gordon M. L. Smith

Sir, Mr Kit Constable Maxwell writes (letter, August 21) of the "Devil's eyes" poster, that "to portray opponents as evil is deplorable". No public figure since the Prince Regent has been so lampooned, insulted and lied about as John Major, nor has any political party been so vilified as the Tories.

Several television characterisations such as Alan B'Stard and *The Politician's Wife* have hammered home the impression that all Conservatives are despicable, but the masterpiece of venom was the Tory Prime Minister, Urquhart, brilliantly acted by Ian Richardson in *House of Cards*, as a murderer capable of any infamy.

The "Devil" poster makes no specific accusation against Tony Blair, and there is nothing new about devils in political cartoons. Aneurin Bevan was frequently portrayed with horns and a tail, but the intention was to ridicule the Tories who got so upset about him.

Yours faithfully,
GORDON M. L. SMITH,
9 Greenfield Way,
Storrington, West Sussex,
August 21.

Saatchi peerage

From Mr Christopher Moore

Sir, The Labour Party has described the ennobling of Mr Maurice Saatchi (letter, August 22) as a "devaluation" of the House of Lords. Surely this is a little hypocritical, given that the official policy of the Labour Party is to abolish the House of Lords. Logically, it should welcome any "devaluation" of an institution of which it claims to disapprove.

Yours etc,
CHRISTOPHER MOORE,
29a Thurlow Place, SW7,
August 22.

Child abuse

From the Right Reverend Paul Burroughs

Sir, Why do we accept the word "paedophile" — "lover of children" — when we really intend "misopaed", or hater of children?

Yours sincerely,
PAUL BURROUGHS,
6 Mill Green Close,
Barnpton, Oxfordshire,
August 20.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

The elements of successful invention

From Dr Robert Lefever

Sir, Sir Christopher Cockerell (letter, August 21) is right to place the blame for poor support for British invention on our educational system, but wrong to single out Cambridge. In a collegiate system undergraduates are formally educated separately in arts or science by day, but spend the evenings and weekends together in college, learning perhaps more of lasting value from each other than from their tutors.

Perhaps more importantly, the selection process for undergraduates is, I believe, still largely based upon interview rather than merely upon examination grades. Appreciation of invention depends upon one's own capacity for intuition and creativity, the very attributes that are (or at least were) encouraged at Cambridge.

Sincerely,
ROBERT LEFEVER,
Corpus Christi College,
Cambridge, CB2 3RQ,
Flat 2, 14 Onslow Square, SW7.

From Mr A. B. Merriam

Sir, The management of innovation is one of the more difficult functions in industry, in which success depends not only on the brilliance of inventors and engineers but also on marketing: that entrepreneurial ability to recognise and exploit an opportunity in the marketplace.

Without good management and marketing we shall never reap the benefits of inventions; yet these functions have only lately been recognised by our universities, when so much of our industry has been lost.

It has been too difficult for engineers, working in an ivory tower of technology, to accede to the ranks of general management where they would command higher salaries for themselves and be better placed to reward those who follow. This requires a wider outlook in our university engineering departments.

There is still a gulf between academia and much of manufacturing industry which must be bridged — if only to keep Sir Christopher and his like from emigrating.

Yours faithfully,
A. B. MERRIAM,
Snodhill, Dorstone, Hereford,
August 22.

Designs on masts

From Mr Gerald H. David

Sir, I was intrigued by Professor David Newland's letter (August 15) proposing a competition for the design of telecommunications masts.

This is a subject close to my heart. I have made it my life's work to try to reduce the intrusion into the countryside that can be caused by our use of telecommunications. I have also been instrumental in promoting the idea that shared masts are economic, less intrusive and considerably reduce the proliferation of radio interference caused by adjacent users.

The problem with trying to produce standard designs for different requirements is that there are probably as many as 50 differing sizes of antennae and dishes that might be needed on a given site, and only when the final

From Dr T. C. Dann

Sir, Sir Christopher Cockerell is right, but has hit upon only half the answer. Certainly we need more broadly educated graduates and, equally, more broadly educated school-leavers. But above all we need to shed our innate conservatism, which is particularly evident in the professions.

Over twenty years ago I published an article in a well-known medical journal showing that a common medical practice, in use since the last century, was not necessary, nor ever had been. After ten years or so I commented to a colleague that it had had little effect on the profession. He replied that I should be patient, that it took twenty years for a new idea in medicine to be accepted. He has proved to be right: the idea is now, at last, generally approved.

However, we proceed as we have been taught, and are overly suspicious of fundamentally new ideas. I should like to predict that the mechanism of cancer formation, and hence the possibility of its cure, will come from someone thinking in an armchair rather than from one working in a multimillion-pound laboratory. And I'm confident that he or she will be looked at askance and ignored for years before the idea is accepted. It may well also be accepted abroad long before it is here.

Yours sincerely,
T. C. DANN,
37 Balsall Street East,
Balsall Common, West Midlands,
August 21.

From Dr A. P. Davidson

Sir, For most of this century technological ignorance has hindered the ability of the UK financial class to make rational risk-investment. Relative underinvestment in engineering becomes more important when technology changes rapidly.

Perhaps to avoid the need to think, the dangerous delusion has developed that the true path to higher profits is to export capital to low-wage economies. The real debate is, should investment be for the short or long term?

Yours faithfully,
ALEXANDER P. DAVIDSON
(Chartered engineer),
Wood Farm House, Whichford,
Shipston on Stour, Warwickshire.

tal load is known can the design be established. Organisations such as my own have spent many years refining the requirements to suit the most elegant structure that can be fitted on a site, but often find that the mast is overloaded as soon as it is put into use.

The sensitive engineer would always try to avoid putting up exceedingly strong structures at the outset, since they undoubtedly cause visual intrusion. The balance between meeting the national needs whilst preserving, wherever possible, the visual charms of our delightful countryside is very delicate.

Yours faithfully,
GERALD DAVID (Chairman),
The Aerial Group,
Latimer Park,
Chesham, Buckinghamshire,
August 19.

Wreck of the Swan

From Wing Commander Derek Dudley Martin

Sir, The newly discovered sunken Cromwellian warship *Swan* (report, August 22) is in good company.

During the war the area between Oban and Mull was much used by flying boats from Oban operating into the Atlantic. There are many crashed Sunderlands lying on the bed of the Firth of Lorn — including mine, since March 1941.

Yours faithfully,
DEREK MARTIN,
Cobble Wood Cottage, Medmenham,
Nr Marlow, Buckinghamshire,
August 22.

Northern stars

From Mrs Nicola Rhodes

Sir, What? £80,000 for a structure designed to make people look at the stars (letter, August 21)? Save that, and millions more, by doing what Libby Purves advocated (article, August 13) — turn the lights off. We can then all enjoy starlit skies whenever the weather permits, without the need to travel to the Pennines on a bicycle.

Yours faithfully,
NICOLA RHODES,
453 Ongar Road, Brentwood, Essex,
August 21.

'The greatest glory'

From Mr A. E. Paton Walsh

Sir, The suggestion in "Rule Britannia" — and the rest of her sisters" (Features, August 21) that "Pericles... was one of the first writers to cast women in a negative role" needs some correction. Certainly, no writings of Pericles have survived, and I am not aware of any evidence that there were any to survive.

"The greatest glory of women is to be least talked about by men, in praise or blame" was written not by Pericles but by Thucydides, in his history of the Peloponnesian wars. It comes from the famous funeral oration he

puts into the mouth of Pericles, but we shall never know whether Pericles ever uttered such a sentiment. It is possible, but Thucydides is notorious for including in speeches what he thought people said rather than what they did say.

Yours faithfully,
A. E. PATON WALSH,
Flat 6, The Warwick,
68-70 Richmond Hill,
Richmond, Surrey,
August 22.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046.

Musical merits of maidens in white

From Mr Michael Darke

Sir, Cyril Ehrlich wrote an interesting article ("Music, muscle-power and maidens in white", August 20) on the proposed entry of women into the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra. However, he is not correct that Sir Henry Wood "seized a chance" provided by the First World War "to import women for the first time to his Queen's Hall Orchestra".

It was in fact in 1913, entirely on merit as a result of his annual auditions for orchestral players, and not because of the lack of men, that he persuaded Robert Newman, on the strong recommendation of the famous violinist Eugene Ysaÿe, to allow him to bring women into his orchestra.

At the opening symphony concert of the season, on October 20, 1913, six young women (the Misses J. Grimson, Mary Dudding, Dora Garland, D. Clarke, Jessie Stewart and S. Malvern) played in the first performance in England of Scriabin's Third Symphony and in Dvorák's Cello Concerto with Pablo Casals as soloist. Sir Henry wrote in his book, *My Life of Music*: "So that, dear Ladies of the Orchestras, you have the excellence of the playing of these six young women of 1913 to thank for the established position you hold today, and incidentally, you owe just a little to Henry J. Wood."

It was during the 1918 Promenade season (not 1917 — even Sir Henry got the date wrong in his book), when Arthur Beckwith, the then leader, was called up for military service, that Dora Garland, who was my mother, led the Queen's Hall Orchestra.

The Times of August 15, 1918, reporting on her fine playing of the Bach *Chaconne* at the Promenade concert, noted that she "doubled the rôle of soloist and leader of the orchestra — a post of honour now occupied for the first time in the annals of the Queen's Hall Orchestra by a woman".

Only a few days previously she had married Harold Darke, the organist and composer. Her violinist granddaughter is one of the "Ladies" of the New Queen's Hall Orchestra, for ever grateful for Henry Wood's foresight.

Yours sincerely,
MICHAEL DARKE,
Henley Hill House,
Henley, Haslemere, Surrey,
August 20.

Booing the Bard

From Mr John Harris

Sir, I have just returned from a most exciting visit to the rebuilt Shakespeare Globe Theatre; what a magnificent recreation it is.

Unfortunately the audience were impeccably behaved throughout. Could those who teach Shakespeare please broaden their syllabus to include some rowdy behaviour, so that when those students watch Shakespeare at the rebuilt Globe, as surely they will, they can go some way to recreating a level of authentic Shakespearean theatregoing.

Yours, with lips sealed throughout the performance,
JOHN HARRIS,
142 Wades Hill,
Winchmore Hill, N21,
August 23.

Ticket inspectors

From Mr Peter Evans

Sir, Since privatisation I have noticed a marked increase in the number of ticket inspectors on my daily commute by rail to the office.

Inquiry of one of the inspectors revealed that their increased activity had raised fare collection on this line by £80,000 in the past month, or an annual rate of nearly £1 million.

It is interesting to speculate what could be achieved for the national finances by privatisation of the Inland Revenue, Customs and Excise, and Social Security.

Yours sincerely,
PETER G. EVANS,
Stocks Farm House,
Bramley, Hampshire,
August 23.

Medical training

From Miss Diana A. Bond

Sir, Now that I can visit a doctor at a railway station (report, August 20), and thus avoid having to take time off to see my GP, how long before I can buy my train ticket from my GP's surgery and thus avoid the long queues in the station ticket halls?

Yours,
DIANA A. BOND,
The Garden Flat, 3 Heath Villas,
The Vale of Health,
Hampstead, NW3,
August 20.

Fit to breathe?

From Mrs Lynda Gibbons

Sir, Mr Tony Ferney asks (letter, August 24) if we should hold our breath until 2005, when Mr Gummer has pledged that Britain's air will be fit to breathe. No, Mr Ferney, if Mr Gummer has pledged it, don't hold your breath.

Yours pessimistically,
LYNDA GIBBONS,
Heathfield, 18 Downs Road,
Guildford, Surrey,
August 24.

OBITUARIES

ROGER HUME

Roger Hume, actor and writer, died in hospital following a stroke on August 24 aged 55. He was born on November 19, 1940.

ALTHOUGH he had a solid career on stage and on television, and appeared in several films, it is with the role of Bert Fry in that awesomely long-lived radio series *The Archers* that he will be chiefly associated, especially in the minds of the millions of devotees of the goings-on in Ambridge. As a farm worker for Phil and Jill Archer, Fry represented the old *Archers* — that "everyday story of country folk" the programme had set out to be, before the younger generations started frequenting wine bars and discos, drinking bottled lager, driving fast cars, owning fax machines and cellphones, becoming single parents and going off backpacking round the world.

Indeed, with the decline of the once lovable Tom Forrest into peppy old age, Bert Fry had, more and more, come to usurp the former's previously unchallenged role as the fount of an ancient rural wisdom. Alas, of late the two men had been deadly enemies, a rivalry never more graphically demonstrated than it was in recent fierce clashes over the problem of bats in the belfry at Ambridge church.

Wherever the two men met the sparks were sure to fly. Whether it was at the Ambridge show, where Fry's leeks would unexpectedly suddenly steal the palm from those of Forrest, or in a forecast of the expectations for the cereal crop, the *Archers* scriptwriters made sure that the atmosphere between the two men guaranteed an explosive episode.

Even after his last recorded participation in the programme on August 14, Fry continued to be referred to in subsequent episodes as the indispensable factotum on whom the economy of the *Archers* farm, and much else besides, depended. And when an enraged but octogenarian



Down on the farm: Bert Fry (Roger Hume) repairs an Ambridge stone wall

Forrest teamed up (somewhat improbably) with an itinerant biker to drive a motorcycle into Ambridge church as a bat-scaring device, the parish's lady vicar could only shake her head and hope that the wiser counsel of Bert Fry would prevail.

Roger Hume was born in London into a family with the theatre in its veins. His father George Hume had been a general manager of the Royal Shakespeare Theatre at Stratford-upon-Avon. This conferred no special privileges on

his son. Hume junior began his own theatrical life at the bottom of the pile in the traditional rookie job of assistant stage manager. He was an ASM on the original West End stage production of *Oliver!* and later went on to work in a similar capacity in films such as *Carry On Regardless*, starring Kenneth Williams, and *Road to the Moon* with Bing Crosby and Bob Hope.

But although his antecedents were in stage management, it was the boards

themselves that attracted Hume, and he began an acting career in repertory before graduating to West End productions. He toured a great deal and was also for a time a member of the Royal Shakespeare Company.

In tandem with a stage career he was working a good deal for BBC Radio Drama, and had participated in more than 200 productions, ranging from plays to short stories and other readings. Among his more recent radio performances — done after he had

joined *The Archers* — were contributions to the *Poets and Places* series. His rendering of verses of A. E. Housman, in the programme featuring the poet, were particularly admired. His face was also a familiar one on television, where he appeared in episodes of *The Bill*, *Poirot* and *Fawlty Towers*. Among his films was *A Fish Called Wanda*.

He was also a scriptwriter of considerable facility and wrote a number of popular one-man shows in which he himself appeared. The most successful of these was *Old Herbaceous*, in which he had featured in venues all over the world, and had performed before the Queen.

When Hume first joined *The Archers* in 1979 it was to play a character of very different kind from that of Bert Fry. His first role was that of the intellectually-minded John Tregorran, erstwhile lecturer, gypsy and now antique expert, who added a certain *je ne sais quoi* to the Ambridge cast through his eccentric behaviour. Thereafter he had a spell as the hard-nosed businessman Sir Sidney Goodman before settling into the role in which he was to make his greatest impact, in 1988.

Gladly casting aside the scholarly intonation of John Tregorran and the grating mercantile accents of Goodman, Hume wrapped the earthy brogue of Ambridge's favourite farmworker round himself effortlessly, and came to inhabit the part with total conviction.

With his *Archers* wife Freda, settled cozily at Woodbine Cottage where he kept an immaculate vegetable garden, Bert Fry, as acted by Roger Hume, made sure that country ways and country tastes remained at the heart of Ambridge's preoccupations, whatever the younger folk might be getting up to. Not for Bert, Mexican lager drunk from the bottle through a twist of lime, as long as a pint of draught Shires ale was to be had, drawn foaming from the handpumps at The Bull.

Roger Hume is survived by his wife Anne and by two sons.

T. A. VARLEY

Thomas Arthur Varley, QSO, OBE, Dominion Chief Fire Officer of New Zealand, 1951-62, died on August 6 aged 94. He was born on August 26, 1901.



IN 1951 Thomas Arthur Varley left England to take up the newly created post of Dominion Chief Fire Officer of New Zealand, after a royal commission into a disastrous fire in Christchurch in 1947. His brief was to unite individual local brigades into a national force and to initiate a training scheme for firemen: his ambition was to create a service with the highest professional standards and a pride in its own identity.

Within a year he had visited every brigade in the country, however remote, and he then began the creation of 72 new brigades. He successfully integrated volunteer firemen, whose contribution he greatly valued, with the full-time men into a single unified whole. He took a keen personal interest in the welfare of the force and he knew the names and family history of most of his men.

Varley standardised equipment, appliances and uniforms, introducing a badge with an eight-pointed star and the motto "Servimus" reflecting his philosophy of service to the community. He set great store by training, and emphasised the importance of qualifications, eventually making the diploma of the Institution of Fire Engineers necessary for promotion to senior officer. To enable the men to be fully conversant with the latest firefighting techniques, he established a fire service training school in Wellington, the first of its kind in New Zealand.

By the time he retired in 1962 he had created a fire service of which the country could be proud and had earned his unofficial title "The Father of the New Zealand Fire Service".

Although Varley spent nearly half his long life in New Zealand and entered fully into the life of his adopted country, he was devoted to England and remained a Yorkshireman at heart and a keen supporter of Leeds United Football Club. He was born in Leeds but at a very early age he showed a desire to widen his horizons and, with characteristic initiative, he ran away from school and attached himself to a travelling menagerie for a short time. His next exploit led him down a mine, where he took care of the pit ponies. But he gave that up soon after the outbreak of war and — by adding several years to his real age — he joined the Royal Marines. His family managed to buy him out but at the end of the war and still

only 17 he was in Russia with the RASC.

Looking around for a civilian job he became a police fireman driver in Gateshead. He then moved to Newcastle and there began to study seriously, taking the demanding examinations of the Institution of Fire Engineers, a qualification rarely sought at that time but now recognised internationally as of the greatest importance. He became a graduate of the institution, later an associate member. He held the presidency of the institution for a record three years from 1942 to 1945.

In 1932, after 11 years in Newcastle, where he gained experience of various types of fire, he became deputy chief at Bury where the main fire hazards were the large multi-storey cotton mills with open wooden floors, heavy looms and cotton dust over all. Here he introduced breathing apparatus, a recent invention, in which he had qualified as an instructor in Newcastle. Until then the standard protection against smoke was a silk handkerchief to be carried in a back pocket.

In 1935, after a brief spell of service as superintendent of the St Helen's Brigade, he was invited to become Chief Fire Officer of Blackpool to establish a fully professional brigade. His success was so great and his skill as a teacher so well known that fire officers from abroad were sent to Blackpool for training. Among his many innovations, he pioneered the practice of painting ambulances white to make them instantly recognisable.

In 1939 when war broke out Varley was made the general mobilising officer for the North West, with the power to call on reinforcements from any brigade in England to an area suffering severe raids. In 1941 the Fire Service was nationalised and became the

NFS. It was then that his wife Evelyn joined as a woman officer. The whole country was divided into 12 regions and he was given charge of No 8 Region, Wales, with his headquarters in Cardiff, a vulnerable industrial and shipping area. Here he put into practice his theory of using trawlers to take men and equipment to sea to board burning vessels.

He himself was once called to a bombed petrol tanker, the *Lucellum*, 40 miles off the Welsh coast and, after 23 hours struggling with the blaze in heat so intense that the firemen's rubber boots began to melt on deck and with the ever-present fear that the ship would explode, the fire was extinguished and the ship and much of its precious petrol was salvaged. For his courage and leadership he was appointed OBE.

Just before the D-Day landings he was sent to Newcastle to take charge of the North East Region. He remained there until 1948 when the NFS was denationalised and control given to city or county councils. He then went to Dorset as Chief Fire Officer. Much of Dorset was rural but he had in his area the vital naval base at Portland and the atomic energy station at Winfrith. In Weymouth he had a cabin cruiser and was able to enjoy his hobby of sea fishing.

After his retirement in 1962 he retained an active interest in the Fire Service and in 1975 was appointed consultant to the newly formed Fire Service Commission of New Zealand. He became patron of the United Fire Brigades Association of New Zealand and in 1991 was made a Companion of the Queen's Service Order of New Zealand (QSO), which had been newly instituted.

Varley is survived by his wife, and by their two sons and two daughters.

LLOYD ROBINSON

Lloyd Robinson, chairman of the Dickinson Robinson Group, 1988-92, died on August 2 aged 83. He was born on December 21, 1912.



Great Britain project: on one occasion returning to Australia and using his friendships to research the descendants of those who had made the voyage in that ship. His chief hobby was his interest in paintings. He was a collector and encouraged the work of young artists. He was also a frequent contributor to Dr Willem Hackmann's definitive book on the history of sonar.

A man who combined managerial foresight with engineering ingenuity, Ward had an ebullient and optimistic personality, advertised by his colourful taste in shirt materials which often brightened dull days in grey Ministry of Defence corridors.

Peter Ward married, in 1940, Joyce Lister, who predeceased him, and he is survived by their two sons and daughter.

LLOYD ROBINSON began his career in a Bristol company by stoking the director's fires and running errands. He retired, 47 years later, as chairman of a major international company.

Thomas Lloyd Robinson was born in Wales and educated at Wycliffe College. But with the death of his father while he was still at school, it became apparent that Thomas would have to abandon any plans he had nurtured of going to university and start working to earn a living instead.

He joined ES & A Robinson as a "corridor boy", but was not to stay at that level for long. Within two years he had been moved to London, and then to Birmingham, where he was given the brief to develop Robinson's sales in what was then virtually virgin territory.

He learnt much about Birmingham, travelling all over the city by bus. And in his spare time he pursued his passion for sport, playing cricket at county level for Warwickshire and rugby for Moseley and for the North Midlands.

With war threatening, Robinson volunteered for the Territorials and the Royal Warwickshire Regiment. The organisational abilities which he had learnt in his work were invaluable in the Army — his skills took him as a staff officer from Camberley to Rheims via Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, to end up on the headquarters staff at SHAEF.

But when war was over, Robinson was unemployed by offers of jobs from other companies and loyally returned to Bristol to work at Robinson's. There he witnessed and helped to bring about a period of intense change in the company, which found its expanding range of products in demand in markets as diverse as those of the medical profession and airline companies.

In 1952 Robinson was made a director of the company and from then on quickly rose to become, in 1974, chairman of the whole Dickinson-Robinson Group, which was by then an industrial empire with branches all over the world from America and Australia to Europe and Africa.

In more recent years Robinson sat on the boards of a number of other companies. He was also chairman of the governors of his old school, and later pro-chancellor of Bristol University, where he had special responsibility for giving advice on financial and industrial matters.

Outside his work, Robinson never lost his interest in sport. He served for a time as president of the Gloucestershire County Cricket Club and was as much at ease discussing the preparation of a cricket with a groundsman, or the moving of a fairway on a golf course, as he was in a company boardroom or a university investment committee.

Robinson is survived by his wife Pamela, and a son and two daughters.

PETER WARD

Peter Ward, naval scientist, died on August 9 aged 79. He was born on August 23, 1916.

AS THE manager of a number of anti-submarine equipment projects during the Cold War, Peter Ward was a leading member of the Royal Naval Scientific Service. This group of talented specialists was for several decades charged not only with the innovative research required to establish the principles of military equipment, but also with the development and management of the subse-

quent hardware programmes up to the production stage.

In the anti-submarine field after the Second World War his group had to counter the technological progress being made by a chiefly submarine-orientated Soviet Navy, satisfy the requirements of the Naval Staff, and in the interests of the special relationship between the Royal Navy and the United States Navy, preserve the British reputation for inventiveness and expertise; all this on a comparative shoestring where mistakes and blind alleys simply could not be afforded.

Although Peter Ward never took a university degree, he was clearly an innate engineer, learning his metalworking hands-on skills from his father and early showing inventive aptitude. Originally a telecommunications expert, he joined the Admiralty service at the outbreak of war in 1939, and was employed for the first three years fitting asdic — echo-ranging submarine detection equipment — into warships. When America entered the war he was sent to Washington as a technical officer on the British military delegation and spent four rewarding and

fruitful years helping with the US Navy's asdic — now called sonar — developments.

Returning in 1946, Ward was assimilated into the RNSS at the underwater detection research establishment at Portland and appointed leader of the only major development of the time — a fire control sonar which for the first time was to be linked by an analogue computer to a powerful multibarrelled mortar, firing a pattern of heavy bombs activated by water pressure at a calculated depth. This system, known as Type 170 Sonar/Limbo, was a great success and was widely fitted in RN frigates. Although never purchased by the Americans, it is recorded that at least one submarine crew must have been impressed — after a trial engagement with the frigate *Rocket* in American waters they surfaced with a bomb (of course, inert) stuck in their casing.

Having seen this programme to production, Ward was assigned to the next major development, the first British high-frequency, low-frequency sonar, one which achieved unprecedented detection ranges and also made use of doppler analysis of returning echoes to establish target classification and movement. He was also involved in deciding the shape of the large conformational array for the sonar for Britain's first nuclear submarine, the *Dreadnought*, reputedly persuading Lord Louis Mountbatten to support a radical change by means of a plasticine model and cogent argument.

Ward was then seconded to Australia for five years to help set up the Australian Navy's scientific research, being in effect the only senior defence scientist on the naval staff. He was responsible for starting the Royal Australian Navy Research Laboratory and for encouraging the development of a radical new system — the adaptation of the Woomera range of the Malkara anti-tank missile into a torpedo — carrying an anti-submarine weapon called Ikara. First fitted into Australian frigates, this was an outstanding success and provided the first quick-reaction, long-range capability against nuclear submarines. On return to the UK in 1963, he was responsible for introducing the Ikara system and its associated data links into British warships.

On retirement at the age of 60 in 1976, he was appointed a Companion of the Imperial Service Order in recognition of his meritorious service.

In retirement he was a strong supporter of the SS

BOOK OFFER

At a Service Near You

Ruth Gledhill, religious affairs correspondent of *The Times*, visited nearly 200 places of worship for the series in *Weekend At your service*, and this book is a collection of 63 of those engaging articles.

Not quite the ecclesiastical equivalent of *The Good Pub Guide*, but Gledhill does assess the quality of the leadership, architecture, sermon, music, liturgy, after-service care and spiritual high at the churches she visits.

She describes the atmosphere, the sort of people who attend, the style of the worship, the quality of preaching and anything that particularly strikes her, even the coffee.

As the daughter of an Anglican clergyman, Gledhill has been attending church regularly since childhood and the experience of visiting so many has had an impact on her own faith.

"I began the series as a churchgoing Anglican with fairly traditionalist views," she says. "The experience has made me more liberal in belief and more open to

evangelical styles of worship, in particular the joy and movement that comes with some of the best spiritual songs."

Ruth believes churches are more than places of worship. They are also community centres in a world where neighbourhood communities are vanishing. They provide an oasis of peace in a noisy environment. The best churches preach faith as the foundation for true healing and happiness and impart to her the sense of God's presence.

At *A Service Near You* makes enjoyable reading. Anyone who wants to find out about a church in an area they are visiting, or simply curious about local churches, will find it extremely helpful.

Readers can get a copy of *At a Service Near You: British Churches — The Good, the Bad and the Ugly* for only £6.49 (normal price £7.99) including postage and packing and with an inserted book plate signed by the author.

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GENERAL DE GAULLE ENTERS PARIS

"VIVE PARIS!" GEN. DE GAULLE AT HOTEL DE VILLE

The Free French wireless announced last night that General de Gaulle entered Paris at 7 p.m. yesterday. It added: "He was received at the Prefecture of Police and at the Hotel de Ville by the new Prefect. In a short speech he said: 'I wish simply and from the bottom of my heart to say to you: 'Vive Paris!'"

Another Free French wireless announcement stated: General Le Clerc has received the German General commanding the Paris area in the Prefecture of Police, in the presence of French resistance leaders and officials of the Provisional Government, to draft the official surrender of the German services in the Paris area.

THE GREATNESS OF FRANCE

"WE MUST MARCH AS CONQUERORS"

General de Gaulle, in a speech to the people of Paris last night from the Prefecture of Police.

ON THIS DAY

August 26, 1944

The Germans offered a stubborn but futile last resistance: even while General de Gaulle and General Le Clerc were in the War Ministry, shots were being fired from nearby buildings

relayed by liberated Paris radio, said: "France will take her place among the great nations which will organize the peace."

"France has rights abroad. France is a great nation and she has rights which she will know how to make heard. She has the right to security. She has the right to insist that she never again invaded by the enemy who has so often invaded her. She has the right to be in the first line among the great nations who are going to organize the peace and life of the world. She has the right to make herself heard in all four corners of the world."

it, and she will act so that others may also know it, because this is of supreme interest — that is the interest of humanity.

"We are here in Paris — Paris which stood erect and rose in order to free herself: Paris, oppressed, down-trodden, and martyred, but still Paris: free now, freed by the hands of Frenchmen, the capital of Fighting France, of France the great eternal."

"It is not enough that with the aid of our dear and splendid allies we should drive the enemy from our soil. After what has happened to France we will not rest or be satisfied until we enter, as is only right, upon the enemy's own territory as conquerors. We are going to fight on to the last day, to the day of total and complete victory. After what happened in 1940, after France gave in and her Government was usurped, there is no other practical and acceptable way for the people to make its voice heard than by the universal and free vote of all French men and women."

"In the France of to-day the word is with the people, with those that hold sovereignty. As soon as conditions permit we want no man or woman to go in fear of hunger, poverty, or the future. We want French men and woman to be worthy of themselves and their country. We want living conditions to be what men and women have a right to expect."

Reuter

TODAY IN THE TIMES GREAT SUMMER OF SPORT

TEST TOILS

Frustration for England in final Test
PAGE 29

RACE TO THE FINISH

Villeneuve closes the gap in Belgium
PAGE 23

BANK HOLIDAY RACING

From Cartmel to Warwick - a guide to today's 10 meetings
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OUT OF COURT

Seeds of doubt at US Open
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TIMES SPORT

MONDAY AUGUST 26 1996



Solskjaer pounces on the opportunity to score Manchester United's equaliser and open his account for his new club after Flowers had spilt his first effort in yesterday's draw at Old Trafford. Photograph: Ian Stewart

Ferguson praises arch-rivals after compelling encounter

Blackburn make their point

Manchester United 2
Blackburn Rovers 2

By ROB HUGHES
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

BLACKBURN Rovers had their day at Old Trafford just a couple of days after Everton had done the same in this vast and throbbing amphitheatre. There were 54,178 witnesses yesterday to the pulsating resilience of English football, complemented by its foreign imports. Yesterday, it was two Norwegians, in particular, who caught the eye: Lars Bohinen, who not only scored a virtuoso goal but ran much of the midfield, and then Ole Gunnar Solskjaer who, at 23, is a goalscoring discovery unravelling before the eyes even of Manchester United who purchased him for his potential.

But let us acknowledge that Blackburn, abandoned last winter by David Batty, deserted by Alan Shearer, and finally last week rid of Kenny Dalglish, the highest-paid golfer in English football, were men playing with pride and passion, and quite prepared to hurt themselves and the opposition to prove a point. That these were the first goals Blackburn have scored in the new campaign, and that before last Wednesday, United had not conceded a solitary goal at home in the league since the beginning of the year, speaks of that commitment. Alex Ferguson, the United manager, not always given to praise of his club's Lancashire rivals, said: "That was the best performance from

Blackburn against us since they came back into the Premiership. For an hour they gave us a real hard time of it. It was helped, of course, by the composition of our team, which without Keane and Butt is not the same. But I thought they [Blackburn] were very confident against us, and it was an example of the high pressing, ebullient flow of English football that makes it very difficult for players to come in from the Continent."

From the very beginning the atmosphere was coarse, with an ill feeling that was not helped by United's media-conducted pursuit of Shearer, nor Blackburn's rather cheeky faxed bid to procure Cantona. As well as protecting his fledglings, Ferguson handles late developers with care, too. Take Solskjaer, 23, yet a full-time professional for barely a year. "I told him I was expecting him just to bed in during this season," Ferguson said, "but Ole's got lightning feet, he's made our players sit up through his technique and finishing on the training

ground, he scored twice in the reserves last Wednesday. I can't hold back people when they are scoring like that."

Neither, having lost Steve Bruce to Birmingham City, can Ferguson any longer depend on the sureness of his defence. Gary Pallister, after so much back trouble, apparently had a stomach disorder before yesterday's kick-off. Whatever, he is not the same assured commander in the penalty area, and Philip Neville, risked at left back just days before his ankle operation, was clearly unable to cope with the considerable pace of Georgios Donis.

Blackburn were true to Ray Harford's promise that they

would go to Old Trafford to play fast, counter-attacking football. "There's no point, when we haven't been scoring goals, trying to defend," the Blackburn manager said. By half-time he was furious that his side, creating so very much and squandering chances to be at least two goals ahead, had in his view carried the game to United and "let them off the hook".

Blackburn took the lead after 34 minutes. Ripley, playing on the left instead of the right, whipped in a tremendous cross for Gallacher, ghosting into position and preying on static United defence, to produce a glancing header that Schmeichel managed only to deflect. Warhurst could hardly help but complete the task and prod the ball over the line.

United came back in direct fashion. Schmeichel, 40 yards off his line, swept up a loose ball, and belted it down the middle. Hendry was guilty of ball-watching and his panicked attempt to head the ball back to Flowers dropped shot and Jordi Cruyff, a goalscorer for the second match running, slipped between the pair and coolly lobbed the ball home.

Some of the tackles, particularly from Blackburn, jarred to the bone. Yet Bohinen, one of those booked for abuse of Beckham, created something out of nothing five minutes into the second half. He teased, he tantalised. First one defender, then the other, first to the left then to the right, always with the ball hypnotically obeying his feet. When, finally, he chose to shoot low from an acute angle on the

right it glanced off the shin of Irwin, and that may have been just enough to deceive Schmeichel at his near post.

Manchester United's response was a mixture of fury and enterprise. They brought on Solskjaer to partner Cruyff in attack, with Cantona making the third man behind them. Solskjaer proved his hunger, his quick reactions as well as quick feet, by equalising in the 73rd minute. Again Blackburn were alarmingly vulnerable to a ball over the top of their central defence, and when Flowers beat down Solskjaer's first shot, the Norwegian gave him absolutely no respite with the rebound.

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United threw bodies forward, and that may have been just enough to deceive Schmeichel at his near post.

ward, Blackburn defended manfully, and with some acrobatic stops from Flowers. But a draw was the just result, and Harford, who had come to win, concluded: "The spirit and attitude of our players was first-class. We had looked previously too anxious to prove people wrong, but this time we looked composed on the counter. We would have won if only we had produced that quality final ball."

Manchester United (4-4-1-1): P. Schmeichel; D. Irwin, D. May, G. G. Solskjaer, G. Hendry, G. Cantona, R. Johnson, B. Mitchell, J. Cruyff, C. Cantona, R. Gough.

Blackburn Rovers (4-4-2): J. Flowers, H. Bagg, S. Coleman, G. Hendry, J. Harford, T. G. Donis, S. Shearer, L. Bohinen, S. Ripley, P. Warhurst, S. Pearce, S. K. Gallacher, S. G. P. (sub: S. Pearce, S. K. Gallacher, S. G. P.).

Referee: S. Dunn (Bristol)

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Hoddle loses more players

By PETER BALL

IT HAS not taken Glenn Hoddle long to discover the realities of life as an international manager. On Friday he lost Darren Anderson and yesterday Liverpool withdrew Steve McManaman and Robbie Fowler from the squad for Hoddle's first international, the World Cup qualifying match in Moldova on Sunday.

There are also doubts about the Newcastle United pair of Steve Howey and David Batty. Howey has a broken toe, Batty a sprained ankle. In response, Hoddle has added Andy Hinchcliffe, of Everton, to his squad, but yesterday he was delaying further call-ups until he has assessed the injuries.



McManaman: injured

"We've asked McManaman and Fowler and Howey and Batty to turn up anyway as it's Glenn's first international," David Davies, the Football Association's director of external affairs, said yesterday. There seems little doubt, however, that the Liverpool pair will not be fit. Both are due to have X-rays tomorrow, with the possibility of a scan should it prove necessary.

"We are not sure if Steve's problem is totally hamstring-oriented, or is coming from the sciatic nerve in the lower back," Mark Leather, the Liverpool physiotherapist, said yesterday.

In Fowler's case, a back problem seems more certain. "Robbie has had a problem on the left-sided lower back, which has given him trouble ever since he reported for pre-season training," Leather said. Anyone at Anfield on Saturday could confirm that Fowler looked a shadow of the player of last season.

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TENNIS: SEEDINGS BUNGLER SOURS ATMOSPHERE BEFORE SEASON'S FINAL GRAND SLAM TOURNAMENT AT FLUSHING MEADOW

Victory for player-power at US Open

FROM DAVID MILLER IN NEW YORK

WHO controls tennis? The International Federation (ITF) and its Grand Slam committee, or the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP)?

In a continuation of a long-running feud between the two, the administrators, in the person of Les Snyder, president of the United States Tennis Association (USTA), last week came up with a decision which the players have scornfully smashed into oblivion. Neither body is wholly in the right, but when the US Open starts today, the players unquestionably hold the moral high ground.

Fuel was added to the controversy over the USTA's embarrassingly bungled manipulation of the men's singles draw — allegedly to protect Andre Agassi — when Yevgeny Kafelnikov, the French champion, stated on Saturday that he had withdrawn more in frustration at his seeding demotion than because of a rib injury. The 22-year-old, who had a theoretical chance of achieving the world No 1 ranking had he won the tournament, floundered home to Sochi in high Russian dudgeon.

The USTA had not only inexcusably reversed the established order of announcing the seedings prior to making the draw, but had exercised its right to deviate from world ranking positions in the seedings. Thus, Agassi, the Olympic champion, was promoted from No 8 ranking to No 6 seed, thereby protecting him from a quarter-final against Pete Sampras, the defending champion, while Kafelnikov was lowered from No 4 ranking to No 7 seed.

"I was shocked when I heard what they had done," Kafelnikov, who beat Sampras in the French Open, said. "I have won a grand slam this year and I am not a bad hard-court player [four of his ten career titles have been won on synthetic surfaces]. They wouldn't have done this to someone like Boris Becker and I am going home because I don't want to be part of a tournament that does things like that."

Kafelnikov provided the necessary medical certificate as justification of withdrawal, without which he would be liable to a fine, yet he stated he could have been fit within two or three days. Snyder said, defensively, that Kafelnikov's seeding demotion was partially on account of his injury and therefore lowered expectation.

The players, and Mark Miles, the ATP tour director, nonetheless remained unconvinced, suspicious of sharp practice.

There was even talk that, because Felix Mantilla, the Spaniard, although ranked No 16, was excluded from the seedings, all the Spanish players would boycott the tournament. Yesterday, Mantilla was added to the list of seeds in Kafelnikov's place.

Wimbledon is the only grand slam event consistently to diverge from rankings in the selection of seeds, because of the extreme difference of the grass-court surface, an exception willingly acknowledged by Miles. Kafelnikov, however, said truculently that his withdrawal should be seen as a warning that the players will not tolerate the ATP ranking list being abused.

The USTA has been foolish in its clumsy handling of a legitimate principle. There would have been little, if any, dispute had the seedings been properly announced first, but the indignity of then being obliged by the players' protest to re-draw the entire tournament has seriously undermined the authority of Snyder and his committee, and with it that of the ITF.

Given Agassi's stunning form when defeating Sergi Bruguera in the Olympic final, it was legitimate to raise his seeding position in the interests of this tournament. The irony is that he is now scheduled to meet Thomas Muster, the No 3 seed, for a place in the final, having earlier in the year accused Muster of scheming an exaggerated ranking position by concentrating on his favoured clay-court tournaments. The USTA promoted Michael Chang to No 2 seed, demoting Muster, as had Wimbledon, from which event Muster subsequently withdrew.

The controversy may become no more than academic if the fluctuation of form that has characterised this year continues. At the three previous grand slam events, there have been 12 different semi-finalists. The recent statement by John McEnroe that the US Open, because its courts have the truest bounce and surest foothold, is the most accurate test of the best players, may be unsubstantiated. The upsets of Wimbledon could prove to be a reflection of the present state of the game: tired, over-competing players at the top, such as Sampras, with ever tougher



Edberg, left, prior to his last US Open, discusses prospects with Sampras during a break from practice

players coming from the lower ranks, such as Kafelnikov, Marcelo Rios, of Chile, and Alberto Costa, of Spain.

It may indeed be true, as McEnroe argues, that since the US Open moved from Forest Hills to Flushing Meadows in 1978 and on to Deco-Turf, the tournament has been relatively shock-free, yet the surface may no longer provide a protection for talent at the top as the players over-extend themselves. The US Open might this year throw up its own Krafchik (the surprise Wimbledon champion) coming from the shadows.

The women's tournament offers the prospect of control by the four top seeds, Steffi Graf, Monica Seles, Arantxa Sanchez Vicario and Conchita Martinez, the interest being whether any of them can be denied a semi-final place by the likes of Jana Novotna, Iva Majoli... or Lindsay Davenport, the No 8 seed and Olympic champion.

US OPEN MEN'S AND WOMEN'S SINGLES DRAWS

MEN

(1) P. SAMPRAS (US) v A. Agassi (US); (2) T. MISTER (AUT) v B. Becker (GER); (3) T. MISTER (AUT) v B. Becker (GER); (4) T. MISTER (AUT) v B. Becker (GER); (5) T. MISTER (AUT) v B. Becker (GER); (6) T. MISTER (AUT) v B. Becker (GER); (7) T. MISTER (AUT) v B. Becker (GER); (8) T. MISTER (AUT) v B. Becker (GER); (9) T. MISTER (AUT) v B. Becker (GER); (10) T. MISTER (AUT) v B. Becker (GER); (11) T. MISTER (AUT) v B. Becker (GER); (12) T. MISTER (AUT) v B. Becker (GER); (13) T. MISTER (AUT) v B. Becker (GER); (14) T. MISTER (AUT) v B. Becker (GER); (15) T. MISTER (AUT) v B. Becker (GER); (16) T. MISTER (AUT) v B. Becker (GER); (17) T. MISTER (AUT) v B. Becker (GER); (18) T. MISTER (AUT) v B. Becker (GER); (19) T. MISTER (AUT) v B. Becker (GER); (20) T. MISTER (AUT) v B. Becker (GER); (21) T. MISTER (AUT) v B. Becker (GER); (22) T. MISTER (AUT) v B. Becker (GER); (23) T. MISTER (AUT) v B. Becker (GER); (24) T. MISTER (AUT) v B. Becker (GER); (25) T. MISTER (AUT) v B. Becker (GER); (26) T. 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MOTOR RACING: FERRARI WIN SLOWS VILLENEUVE TITLE PURSUIT AFTER BRITON'S PIT-STOP DELAY

Schumacher cushions Hill's descent

FROM OLIVER HOLT
IN SPA-FRANCORCHAMPS

MICHAEL SCHUMACHER turned from Damon Hill's chief tormentor into his Good Samaritan here yesterday. As the Englishman floundered far from the battle for victory in the Belgian Grand Prix, undone by the procrastinations of his own team, the man who has torn two Formula One world championships away from him in successive seasons tossed one into his path instead.

Hill's attempt to stop the charge of his team-mate and only remaining championship rival, Jacques Villeneuve, was undermined less by another stuttering start than by his Williams team's confusion over whether to call him in for a pit-stop on the fifteenth of 44 laps, after the pace car had been called on to the track.

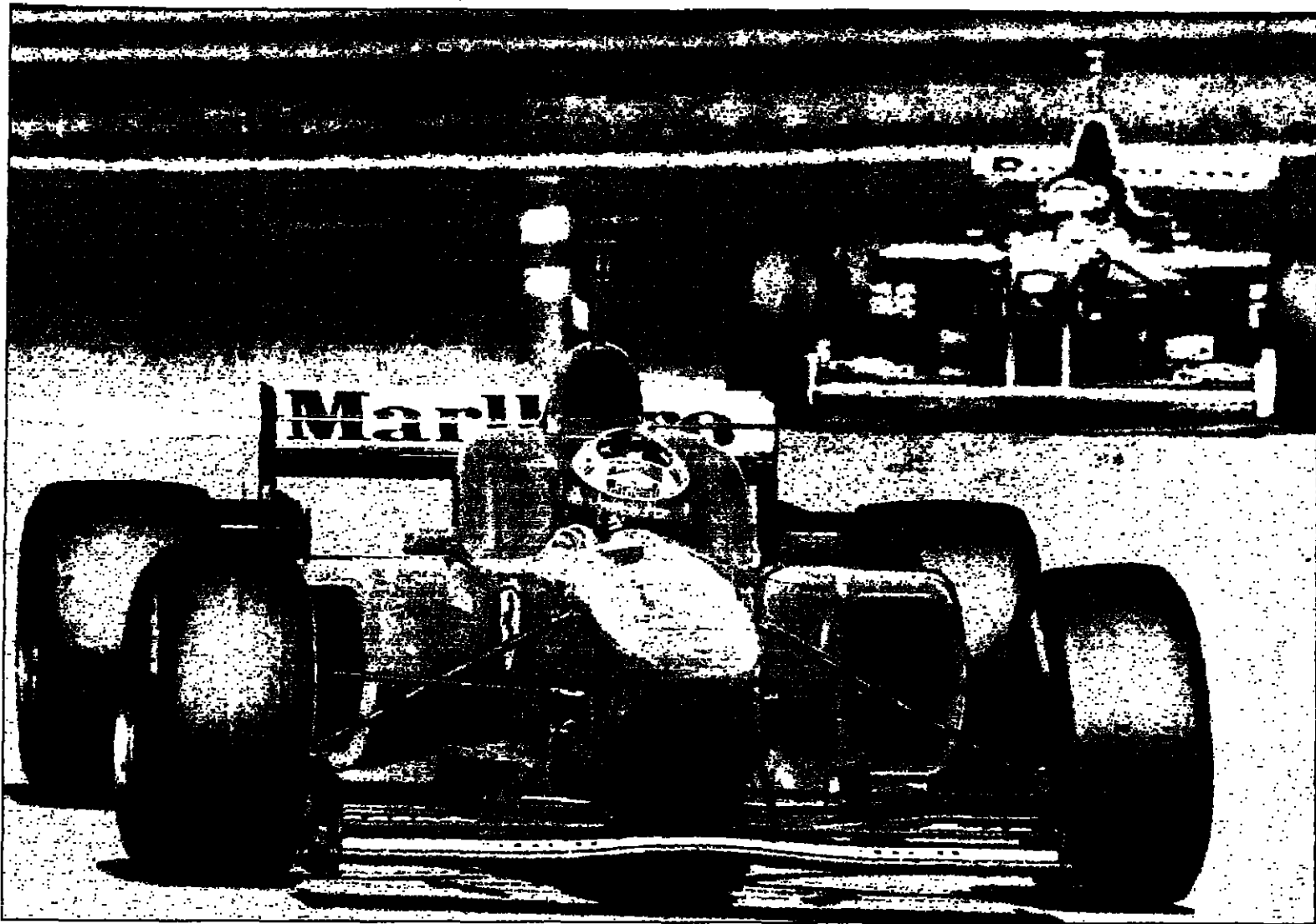
Yet the damage done to his pursuit of his first drivers' title was minimised by his own persistence in clawing his way back from twelfth to fifth place and the determination of Schumacher to repel Villeneuve's desperate efforts to rein him in, and to secure his second win of the season for Ferrari. Hill's championship lead has been slashed to 13 points now with three races to go, but it could have been worse.

The focal point of the race, on a track that plunges and curves its way through the forests of the Ardennes and puts a premium on the courage and ability of the drivers, came on the thirteenth lap. The pace car was introduced to slow the cars down after debris from an accident involving the Arrows driver, Jos Verstappen, had been strewn across the track. The leading drivers dived into the pits to make their first stops.

After Villeneuve, the race leader, had failed to hear his pit crew screaming at him over the radio to come in, Hill was called in, instead. But, just as he was about to enter the pit lane, the team realised they had not got time to clear Villeneuve's tyres and refuelling rig out of the way and told him to stay on the track.

Hill, who had been running fourth, was forced to weave his way through some barriers and rejoin the race. When he was allowed to make his stop two laps later, with the pace car still bunched up in the field, he emerged in twelfth place, six places lower than he would otherwise have been.

"I called Damon in and then said 'no'," Adrian Newey, the Williams chief designer,



Schumacher, followed by Villeneuve, charges towards his second grand prix victory of the season in Belgium yesterday. Photograph: Yves Herman

admitted. "If I could have my time again, I would have stuck to the original decision to call him in. It would have been a slow stop, but he would not have lost as much time as he did by staying out for two more laps. I made a mistake, but there is not much time out there. I have spoken to Damon and I think he understands."

Hill stopped short of criticising the team and spoke instead of his relief that the outcome of the race had not been more costly. "At one stage," he said, "I did not think I was going to get any points at all. I really thought Jacques was going to win it, too."

Schumacher, driving with a leg injury sustained in a heavy crash during practice on Friday, hurtled past Hill at the start and went on to produce his habitual bravura drive on the circuit where he made his startling grand prix debut five years ago and won his first race the year after.

He tracked Villeneuve, who had started from pole position,

for the first third of the race, pressing him so close that the Canadian's wheels kept locking up, trailing great plumes of smoke as he left his braking to the very last moment. When the pace car came out after Verstappen's accident, the German darted into the pits and gained the advantage.

When Villeneuve made his

own belated stop a lap later, he emerged behind Schumacher and Alesi, in his Benetton-Renault. He overtook Alesi as soon as the pace car pulled off, but he could not get close enough to Schumacher to attempt to overtake him. He did squeeze out in front of the world champion after he made his second

pit stop a lap later, but Schumacher's momentum carried him past.

"It was good to get some points back," Villeneuve said, "but gaining four points a race on Damon is not enough. It should have been more today, but the race was won and lost when the pace car went out and we suffered from our problems with communication."

The day, anyway, belonged to Schumacher. Hugged and kissed on the podium by Jean Todt, the Ferrari sporting director, the German talked about how the win was like "Hollywood life", how he would not have "bet a penny" on it before it started.

And as he left the circuit, he carried with him a pair of running shoes given to him by Michael Johnson, the double Olympic gold medal-winner, in exchange for one of Schumacher's helmets. It was an acknowledgment that, in Formula One, Schumacher is still The Man.



Schumacher, right, celebrates with Jean Todt, of Ferrari

SPA DETAILS

RESULTS: 1. M. Schumacher (Ger, Ferrari) 1hr 28min 15.12sec; 2. J. Villeneuve (Can, Williams) at 5.802sec; 3. M. Hakkinen (Fin, McLaren) 15.710; 4. J. Alesi (Fr, Benetton) 19.125; 5. D. Hill (GB, Williams) 20.178; 6. G. Berger (Austria, Benetton) 20.896; 7. M. Salo (Fin, Tyrrell) 1:00.254; 8. U. Katajama (Japan, Tyrrell) 1:00.227; 9. R. Fittler (Br, Arrows) at 1:00.210; 10. P. Lamy (Por, Minardi) same lap. Did not finish: 11. D. Coulthard (GB, McLaren) 37 laps completed; 12. M. Brundle (GB, Jordan) 34; 13. E. Irvine (GB, Ferrari) 29; 14. R. Barrichello (Br, Jordan) 22; 15. P. Dini (Br, Ligier) 22; 16. J. Verstappen (Hol, Arrows) 11. Did not start (failed to complete 1lap): O. Panis (Fr, Ligier), J. Herbert (GB, Sauber), H-H. Frenzen (Ger, Sauber).

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP POSITIONS (after 13 rounds): Drivers: 1. Hill 61pts; 2. Villeneuve 58; 3. Schumacher 56; 4. Alesi 38; 5. Hakkinen 23; 6. Coulthard 18; 7. Berger 17; 8. Pons 15; 9. Barrichello 12; 10. Irvine 9; 11. Frenzen 6; 12. Salo 5; 13. Herbert 4; 14. Brundle 3; equal 15. Verstappen and Dini 1. Constructors: 1. Williams 148pts; 2. Benetton 55; 3. Ferrari 48; 4. McLaren 41; 5. Jordan 15; 6. Ligier 13; 7. Sauber 10; 8. Tyrrell 5; 9. Footwork 1.

REMAINING GRANDS PRIX: September 8: Italy, Monza. September 22: Portuguese, Estoril. October 13: Japanese, Suzuka.

Sky should be aware of the bare necessities



MATTHEW BOND
TV ACTION REPLAY

Midway through the first half of Portsmouth's match against Queens Park Rangers, we had a significant television moment. We had a streaker. We knew we had a streaker because we saw pictures of Terry Venables chucking. We know we had a streaker because we had to listen to Rob Hawthorne and Dave Bassett laughing. And we know we had a streaker because she graced two or three national newspapers on Saturday morning.

We do not, however, know we had a streaker because we had finally discovered where Sky Sport 3, BSkyB's latest sports channel, was hiding on our satellite receiver. Amazingly, the Sky cameras, so proud of their reputation for capturing the action "live and exclusive", turned modestly away. It was like the BBC at its most maddening, Auntie-ish worst.

I do hope it does not happen again. Subscribers pay a lot of money for the sports channels of BSkyB, which is 40 per cent owned by News International, owner of The Times. They do not expect to be treated in the same patronising way that the BBC sports department has long reserved for licence payers. By tradition, the corporation has turned its cameras away from demonstrations, serious injuries and — heaven forbid! — people with no clothes on. BSkyB should not fall into the same censorious trap. If its otherwise excellent sports coverage is to become a realistic alternative to attending a sports event on site, then we must see everything — warts, wobbly bits and all.

Censorship apart, it has been an excellent start to the new football season, with BSkyB (live coverage) and the BBC (highlights) combining to produce effective. For years, I used to boycott football matches in August — they just did not seem right — but this year, so far, with the new season now nine days old, I have been to two FA Cup Premier League games, watched three games (two Premier-

ship, one Nationwide Football League) live on Sky and enjoyed two helpings each of Football Focus and Match of the Day.

It took me a week to work out what the new computer-generated set of Football Focus reminded me of. It was a dead ringer for Dennis Potter's Cold Lazarus, with a large grey football taking the place of Daniel Feeld's floating memories and Gary Lineker taking the part played by Frances de la Tour. They do have very similar haircuts.

Yet no sooner had I made the connection than someone took the sensible decision that things should be a good deal less flashy for week two, with much of the high-tech wizardry being quietly dropped. That made it much easier to concentrate on the fact that Lineker already looks much happier as a presenter than he ever did as an expert-cum-summamiser and that Football Focus is well on its way back to being an essential starting point to any sporting Saturday afternoon.

Interviews with Graham Le Saux and Glenn Hoddle covered two of the week's big stories, but it was pictures from a press conference held by Kevin Keegan, purportedly to discuss Newcastle's European draw, that provided the programme's most powerful image. I swear he looked five years older than he did last weekend — and that was before the Sheffield Wednesday team coach rolled into St James' Park.

Interestingly, the BBC was not alone in having something of a high-tech rethink. The game between Manchester United and Blackburn Rovers yesterday revealed that Sky had reined back heavily on the extraordinary sound-effects that accompany its new Internet-inspired graphics. Some had compared them to the ringing of a telephone (a few had even gone to answer it), others to the clanking of a passing chain-gang, but the sooner they go permanently the better. The bells, the bells...

PARALYMPICS

Britain stay with pace in medal hunt

BY ALIX RAMSAY

THREE more gold medals on Saturday night lifted Great Britain back into third place in the medals table as the final day of competition at the Paralympic Games began. It had been a frantic final weekend, with Britain chasing their target of 40 golds won in Barcelona four years ago.

In 1992, Chris Holmes had been the hero of the hour, winning six swimming titles and setting three world records in the process. This time, the competition has been harder, but, on Saturday, no one could catch him as he took his second gold of the Games, breaking his own world record by nearly three seconds to win the B2 100 metres backstroke in 1min 7.29sec. Sarah Bailey added to her collection of medals as she won the SB10 100 metres breaststroke in 1min 26.97sec.

Noel Thatcher's dreams almost came true, too. He had been planning to run — and win — the 5,000 metres, 10,000 metres and the marathon in the B2 class to equal Emil Zatopek's three gold medals in the 1952 Olympic Games. A stress fracture of his left shin had put the hat-trick in doubt and, having won the 10,000 metres earlier in the week and the 5,000 metres late on Friday night, he finally gave in to the doctors and pulled out of the marathon yesterday morning. However, two gold medals eclipses his Barcelona record of gold in the 1,500 metres and bronze in the 800 metres.

Stephen Miller won his first Paralympic gold medal on Saturday, winning the F50 club competition with a throw of 25.84 metres. Miller, 16, from Northumberland, is the youngest member of the British athletics team.

Britain is only one gold away from Australia, lying in second place, and three away from the leaders, the United States. However, for one brief moment on Friday, Britain were top of the medals' table, thanks in no small part to the four golds gleamed from the bowls event. William Curran, Neil Shaw, Alan Lyne and Rosa Crean took the honours.

RUGBY LEAGUE: EXPECTANT ST HELENS FIND FORMER CAPTAIN IN WAY OF FIRST LEAGUE AND CUP DOUBLE FOR 30 YEARS

Wigan rely on vagaries of Murphy's Law

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

THEY had mercilessly flogged Workington 78-4, a record win for the first summer season. It could have been by 200 points, but still there would have been no Wigan player willing to suggest on Saturday that they would be Stones Super League champions. 48 hours hence.

The possibility nobody dare speak of was Warrington winning at Knowsley Road today and turning the St Helens coronation procession into a funeral march. Funnier things have happened, certainly, but in looking ahead to the top-four Premiership competition to salvage their season, Wigan obviously do not think it will occur.

One faint hope that they cling to is Murphy's Law. According to this, Alex Murphy, who captained the last St Helens side to the championship and Challenge Cup double in 1966, coached them for

five years and who will join a parade of St Helens legends this afternoon, brings about his former club's downfall.

Murphy, now Warrington's manager, can hardly believe it himself. "I'll be honest and say I don't feel good. I had 11 glorious years with St Helens and if anybody said to me you'd like to win, I would say St Helens — but I'd have my Warrington hat on and if we could knock them over, that's the way rugby league is."

Not that Murphy and John Dorahy, the Warrington coach, are kindly disposed to Wigan, having both been dismissed there. Eric Hughes, too, knows what it is to be dismissed. The St Helens side is largely his. The ruthless means by which Shaun McKrae was brought in last January will be seen to be justified by the double, but it is easy, too, to understand why Hughes, now in charge at Leigh, will not be there today.

Hughes was felt to lack the killer instinct. St Helens got near under him, just not near enough to topple Wigan. That has changed, thanks to the talented young team he built and the hardened finish McKrae has applied. Neither man begrudges the other, but should St Helens end their 21-year championship quest, a note of thanks to

Full results and league tables Page 35

Hughes would not go amiss. All McKrae brought with him was Derek McVey, a fellow Australian, but what the former Canberra assistant has added is that indefinable extra something, be it in defence or the confidence to get out of a tight spot. The bridesmaid tag was shed in the Challenge Cup final defeat of Bradford Bulls and,

for sheer consistency, St Helens have had no match.

McKrae has no intention today of finding out for the first time what it is to lose at home. "Doing it on your own soil is where success starts. Wigan last lost at home 2½ years ago," he said. "At Canberra, we went two seasons undefeated at home, so you must look at your 11 home games and say that there are 22 points you must win. So far, it's ten down and one to go."

The first Warrington game was one of several that St Helens won by a hair's breadth. Warrington's recent memories of Knowsley Road inevitably hark back to a four-day spell earlier this year, when they lost 80-0 in the Regal Trophy semi-final and 54-14 in the centenary championship. It is unlikely they will suffer on that scale today.

Some critics have complained that St Helens have compromised themselves as entertainers, which is rubbish. These days they know

when to shut up shop and when to open up, which, in the defeat of Sheffield last week, was both devastating and memorable.

St Helens are at full-stretch for a match they know they have to win, but, in pushing their rivals to the final day of the championship campaign, Wigan showed the relegation and defensively shambolic Workington no mercy. Henry Paul grabbed three of the 14 tries and Steve Barrow another hat-trick. They know, though, that the point dropped at home to London Broncos in mid-summer was the one that really allowed St Helens to get away.

Talk of a St Helens dynasty is far too premature. Judging by the meagre 6,466 turn-out on Saturday, the Wigan public feel the championship reign since 1989 is over. "I will be going to church in the morning," Graeme West, the Wigan coach, said. "That's all I can do."

Leeds have no answer to Bentley

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

JOHN BENTLEY scored four tries against his former club and was involved in a punching incident as Halifax Blue Sox beat Leeds 64-24 at Thrum Hall yesterday. The Halifax winger scored in the 25th, 54th, 56th and 76th minutes as Leeds were outplayed, but was sin-binned after a clash with Mick Shaw, which led to the two teams squaring up to each other.

Leeds enjoyed a brief command of the game early on with the first of two tries from Mike Forshaw, but Halifax were soon back on terms, leading 28-12 at half-time and then running away with the match. It left them in sixth place in the Stones Super League, while next season cannot come soon enough for Leeds.

A determined second-half rally enabled Oldham Bears to end their season on a high note with a 34-25 win against Sheffield Eagles. Oldham trailed 21-6 at half-time after an inept display, but improved beyond measure to claim six tries, three of which were scored by Scott Ranson in a 16-minute period.

Bradford Bulls, already guaranteed a Premiership play-off place next weekend, followed up their surprise defeat by Halifax with a tame display at Paris Saint-Germain on Saturday night. They won 27-14, but not without a struggle.

James Lowes, who is expected to be called into the Great Britain tour party tomorrow as a replacement, secured victory at the Charley Stadium with two second-half tries, the second after he charged down a kick from Dion Bird and raced in from 60 metres.

Graeme Bradley and Bernard Dwyer, another Britain tourist, scored tries before the break, but Paris clawed their way back to within two points, courtesy of touchdowns by Bird and George Wilson, his fellow Australian.

Paris, spared relegation by Workington filling bottom place in the Super League, briefly threatened a fourth home win of the season, before the intervention of Lowes. Stuart Spruce added a further try and Steve McNamara dropped a late goal.

Local hero standing on the brink of greatness

Christopher Irvine finds in Keiron Cunningham a young hooker of the Nineties destined to inspire St Helens to the Stones Super League title

Shaun McKrae, the St Helens coach, is a down-to-earth Australian, not usually given to flights of fancy. So, when he says that he has in his rugby league side potentially one of the greatest players that England has produced, it does take notice.

Keiron Cunningham has established a reputation as the outstanding hooker of his generation. Great Britain is, at present, well equipped with fine, youthful No 9s, including Paul Rowley, at Halifax, and John Lawless, at Sheffield. None, though, exudes the confidence, speed of thought and impudent mastery of the acting half-back role that Cunningham, at 19, does, which is why he is on the tour party next month to the southern hemisphere.

Not that long ago, hookers were barrelled-shaped custodians of the scrum, whose hooking leg was the only tool of their trade. Cunningham and company are lean, upright, creative and, particularly in Cunningham's case, fast off the mark. The hooker, in effect, is now a third half back, propelling play forward from dummy half.

For all that Bobbie Goulding is an inspirational captain and Paul Newlove scores more tries than anyone, Cunningham is the fulcrum of the team. On the one occasion that things went badly wrong, at Bradford last month, Cunningham was still trying

ceaselessly. "Bobbie was injured and I made Keiron captain that night," McKrae said. "He got a couple of tries and still did himself proud. You forget his age."

St Helens are a youthful side who crave success. Whether they can dominate as Wigan have done

hinges on Cunningham and his contemporaries, such as Steve Prescott, Joey Hayes, Karl Hammond, Andy Haigh, Andy Leatham, Danny Arnold, and Chris Morley, all 22 or younger. "We want to win, keep on winning and become the great side Wigan were," Cunningham said, hardly in the tones of someone who recently wanted a transfer.

The likelihood is that Cunningham's contract wrangle will be resolved and he will be able to concentrate fully on a career at his home-town club that, in a short time, has swept him off the terraces at Knowsley Road and transformed him into a hero of those he once stood with.

Eddie and Tommy, his older brothers, played for St Helens and represented Wales in the Seventies. "I was always there, home and away," Cunningham said. "Winning the Challenge Cup this year was great and I know



Cunningham: scavenger

what the championship means here, even though I wasn't born when we last won it, in 1975."

Widnes, however, won the race for Wigan St Jude's amateur club and some clubs were keener than others," Cunningham said. "Widnes offered me a contract. The next thing was a call of apology saying they'd given it to the Australian, Julian O'Neill."

"Eric Hughes [McKrae's predecessor] was the one who really brought me up at Saints through the Academy and Alliance sides and gave me my first team chance. I owe him a lot and it was dreadful when he was dismissed, but Shaun has molded the team and got us to the brink of winning the double."

Cunningham will not forget the past year: a regular Wales place, the Great Britain call-up for the Papua New Guinea, Fiji and New Zealand trip, nominations for young player of the year and outstanding Super League player and today, possibly, a Super League winner's medal to go with the Challenge Cup one.

Injustice seen to be done by everyone but officials

Chelsea 2
Coventry City 0

By SIMON BARNES

WE LEARN to take injustices in our stride. We have to. The only alternative is to get fitted with one of those nice waistcoats that does up at the back. At work, promotion goes to another person, because the candidate is — or, of course, is not — a woman. At home, what have you done, that the roof should fall in? Further injustices come through the post in brown envelopes. The smug words of half-forgotten school teachers remain true across the years: "It's not fair, sir." "But it's not a fair world, Barnes."

We may deal with injustice with anger or dismay, with sulks or with saintly acceptance, but the one thing we do not expect is for the good fairy to pop out of hiding, waving her wand and making everything all right again.

Bing! Here's your tax back, your VAT fine forgiven, your innocent conversation with the barmaid forgotten. Here's a nice new job, and you can start your new job on Monday. Oh, and make sure your

former boss gets on with cleaning the lavs.

Life should be like that. Of course it should, but it's not — and we do not expect it to be, not once we have passed the age of, say, 12. We live with injustice on a more or less daily basis. In fact, there are only two classes of people who believe that every injustice can be put right: saints and, of course, professional athletes.

Which brings us to Chelsea and what began as a tight and intriguing football match with Coventry City before becoming, after half an hour, an unresolved morality play about injustice and how to deal with it. Over to Big Ogie.

Steve Ogrizovic, the Coventry goalkeeper, scooped up the ball and hurled it to Jess, already scampering up the field. Petrescu, on Chelsea's right flank, stuck a hand in the air to break up the counter attack. Such weird interventions as this break up of play are the patterns of play as the patterns of sport. Coventry, half looking for the referee and half for Vialli as play continued, were caught in a state of flux.

Johnsen's cross was met by Leboeuf, choosing cannily his mo-



Ron Atkinson, the Coventry manager, protests to the linesman

ment to emerge from defence. His cracking header was unstoppable and Coventry, at once a goal down, an unfair goal, were overcome. Sport is a world with rules and people to enforce them, such things are not supposed to happen.

And no one in the Coventry side could believe that it had happened. I

They pursued the referee. Paul Dawson, they pursued the linesman, Glen Hegley, who, after all, had been less than a cricket pitch away from the incident. Bing! Alas, the good fairy did not pop up at all. Instead, Ogrizovic and McAllister got booked for their protests and Daish, who embellished his own contribution with strong language, was sent off.

Danson was like the man who kicks you in the teeth and then tears your ears off for muzzling. It's not fair, sir — but to a referee, pointing out injustice is an act of subversion, a crime against the state. He has nowhere to go in such a situation. His only recourse is to reinforce his own error. His own authority is more precious than truth, or justice. Hence the bookings and the sendings-off: temporary martyrs for the cause of error.

It was, however, an awful mistake and the Coventry outrage, is, at the very least, understandable. One official could miss such an incident, that two of them actually did is a very poor show. Referees have a very difficult job; but so do footballers. So, for that matter, do all the rest of us, in our different ways. It was thoroughly unprofessional. It

made a mess of the game, inevitably. Coventry did awfully well and might have escaped with a point. So great was the spirit shown by Dublin and McAllister. But it was not to be.

Last week at Middlesbrough, I watched a great Italian forward playing in front of a very poor English defence. Ruud Gullit, the Chelsea manager, has bought his own great Italian, Vialli, but added a truly excellent continental defender. Leboeuf has a fine touch and excellent distribution, but best of all is the way he sees things about ten minutes before they actually happen. He is an education.

Vialli scored his first goal for Chelsea to end Coventry's resistance. It was a better, too, fairly lashing home Clarke's cross before setting off on the latest choreographed celebration. The win puts Chelsea in second place: heady times. They might be quite a decent side when Gullit is fit again.

CHelsea (3-5-2) D. Nwankwo — E. Johnson, P. Leboeuf, S. Clarke — D. Petrescu, D. Worrall, R. D. Harris, J. Morris (sub: C. Burke, 40th), A. Myers (sub: S. Morris, 70) — M. Hughes, G. Vialli

COVENTRY CITY (3-5-2) S. Ogrizovic — D. Burrows, L. Daish, R. Shaw — R. Gossens, P. Taylor, G. McAllister, E. Jess (sub: A. Dawson, 70), J. Salako — D. Dublin, N. Whelan (sub: P. Williams, 70)

Referee: P. Danson

Imports reduce Brown's field of choice

CRAIG BROWN announced his squad for the World Cup qualifier in Vienna the day after Rangers had swamped the Russian champions, Alania Vladikavkaz, 7-2 in the European Cup. It was whimsically suggested that the Scottish manager would now have to live up to this new standard. "I'm not allowed to play five foreigners," Brown said in jovial protest.

Scottish football is being colonised by invitation as clubs beseech overseas players to invade. This summer, Aberdeen signed two Bulgarians and are presently engaged in negotiations with FC Sion, of Switzerland for the French defender, Antoine Kombouare. At Tynecastle, Heart of Midlothian enjoy the services of a couple of English-

KEVIN MCCARRA



Scottish commentary

men, but also depend on Gilles Rousset and Pasquale Bruno.

A manager whose passport is not dog-eared from use is simply failing in his duty. It is hard to resent the trend, however, when the Bell's Scottish League premier division is engaged in importing delight. On Saturday, Paolo Di Canio made his league debut for Celtic as a substitute and, four minutes later, had notched a sumptuous equaliser. At Kilmarnock, after a slight of foot allowed him to work the space for a gentle finish.

Celtic went on to win 3-1, with goals from a German, Andreas Thom, and their Portuguese forward, Jorge Cadete. Of the ten players signed by the club's manager, Tommy Burns, six have been non-Scots. There will be no protest from those who simply seek entertainment in return for the ever more costly admission price. The panache and quirky haircuts of the foreigners creates a cosmopolitan atmosphere in which supporters wallow.

No doubt the Scotland manager also relished the scene at Rugby Park, but his gaze will have drilled through the Latin ambience to reach the figure of Jackie McNamara. The Celtic right back's inclusion in the party for Austria is his first involvement with the Scotland squad and it is a promotion he would have recoiled from only a few months ago.

When asked then if he hoped to feature in the European championship finals in England, McNamara immediately answered that he was not ready for senior international football. The only vision of the defender had of his summer entailed a badly-needed holiday.

When he was signed for £600,000 from Dunfermline Athletic last autumn, not even Burns expected that the right back was ready to be a regular member of the team. McNamara had never even played in the premier division before, so how could he avoid buckling under the pressure at a club attempting to win it? A physiologist might have had as many doubts about him as a sports psychologist, for, at 22, he is only 5ft 8in tall and weighs a little over 10st. Most opponents fancy that they can overwhelm him at the back post, although few succeed.

McNamara's vitality on the field has swept him past all the difficulties. He is competitive enough to battle and cover, despite the lack of bulk, and his overlapping runs give Celtic much of their impetus.

McNamara must feel relieved to be so involved at a club with the wealth to seek instant solutions to its problems. The defender will note the struggle in which other Celtic players of his age are embroiled. Brian McLaughlin and Simon Donnelly were with him in the Scotland Under-21 side, but neither would feature in the Celtic first team at present if a fully-fit squad was available to Burns.

Similar circumstances apply elsewhere and, while Charlie Miller is said to be almost ready for international football, the present Rangers team probably has room for him only because of injuries.

Brown is not a melancholy man, but he must wonder how the native talents are to be nurtured in future. Where will he and his successors find a supply of suitable Scots?

Keegan still struggling to solve his equation

Newcastle United 1
Sheffield Wednesday 2

By DAVID MADDOCK

MIDWAY through the second half of this contest, Newcastle United were presented with a throw-in on the right touch-line. Watson, the thrower, had Shearer and Ferdinand as targets, just out of range. He waited and waited, but both were reluctant to move out to the flank. After an endless pause, Batty trotted over to take the ball.

This one, seemingly insignificant, moment, perhaps offered all the insight required to understand Newcastle's current problems. They lost because Sheffield Wednesday took full advantage of defensive incompetence, but the defence was exposed because the forward line is not yet functioning properly.

Shearer, the £15 million summer signing, needs to occupy the space currently taken by his striking partner. Because they are similar and because they have yet to devise an alternative strategy, they are cramping each other's — and the team's — style. Both want to play the middle ground; only one can do it.

Kevin Keegan, the Newcastle manager, knows this. "I am trying a different way of playing. I am trying a different system and I am trying to accommodate players," Keegan said. "The key word is accommodate," he added, pointedly.

The problem is one of balance. The starting forward line is wonderfully gifted, as good as there is in Europe. In the first 15 minutes, they breathlessly reduced Sheffield Wednesday to a state of awed submission by systematically taking them apart.

But then Ferdinand, Shearer and even Asprilla — refused to move wide to offer alternatives as Wednesday rummaged the game-plan and it all went pear-shaped. Too many centre-forwards spoil the froth, it seems.

Ginola, a little frustrated after standing on the left wing for much of the match, an intrigued spectator watching the three-ring circus unfolding beyond him, expressed the sentiment that is beginning to dawn on the more enlightened Newcastle supporters. "I want to give my best and carry out instructions, but the current system just doesn't suit me," he said.

Keegan is a stubborn man and his pride may prevent him from conceding that Shearer and Ferdinand are just too similar, but he must surely experiment once more by placing Asprilla in his more favoured role behind a sole forward, with Gillespie introduced on the flank. That, of course, means no Ferdinand — and there would be plenty of takers, not least Blackburn Rovers.

Yet the image of the opening exchanges of this match persists. It was not football, it was fantasy, with wave after wave of attacks coming from the most unlikely of angles. Asprilla twice tested Pressman, the Wednesday goalkeeper, as did Shearer. A goal was inevitable. It came after 13 minutes when the Colombian drew Stefanovic into a naive challenge, took a tumble, and Shearer obliged from the penalty spot.

So what happened? Well, Wednesday immediately produced an equaliser that exposed the vulnerability of the home defence. Newcastle folded in the face of the first adversity.

The goal was a simple and shocking one. Scott Oakes, displaying a refreshing enthusiasm with his incessant and intelligent running, floated in a free kick from near the halfway line and Peter Atherton rose unchallenged just yards from goal to convert the easiest header he will be offered all season.

From then on, Newcastle ran down blind alleys and Wednesday eventually nudged them. The winning goal came ten minutes from the end. City Whittingham barely concealing his incredulity when Watson inexplicably headed a long clearance from Pressman straight to him, unmarked, inside the penalty area.

The Sheffield team now have three wins from three, are top of the table and David Pleat, the manager, is beginning to enjoy being there. "What was important was that Newcastle didn't cut us up," he said. "We withstood frenetic pressure. Whether it was intelligent pressure, I don't know." Pleat does know, and it was not.

NEWCASTLE UNITED (4-2-4) P. Smith — S. Watson, S. Howey, P. Atherton, R. Elton — D. Batty, R. Lee (sub: L. Clark, 75th) — F. Asprilla (sub: N. Gillespie, 66), A. Shearer, L. Ferdinand, D. Ginola.

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (4-1-4-1) K. Pressman — P. Atherton, D. Walker, D. Slettenkov, I. Nolan — W. Collins, G. Whittingham, S. Oakes (sub: G. Hyslop, 71), M. Pemberton, R. Barker — R. Humphries (sub: O. Trustall, 61)

Referee: P. Jones



Sheringham's scoring intentions were thwarted by this timely sliding tackle by Unsworth, of Everton, at White Hart Lane on Saturday

Anderton highlights growing concern

THE shadow of Darren Anderton hung over Tottenham Hotspur's goalless game with Everton at White Hart Lane on Saturday. Not simply because his lively presence was missed in midfield — where Jason Dozzell was a forlorn, pedestrian figure, missing the one good first-half chance he had — but, more significantly, because of that groin.

Anderton is unquestionably one of the most promising young players in England, one I have admired ever since seeing him score two spectacular goals for Portsmouth in an FA Cup tie. He has all the gifts of a natural winger, which he puts to good use even in central midfield, though he will never be as sophisticated a passer of the ball as Everton's 21-year-old, Tony Grant.

On Saturday morning, we learned that Anderton would miss not only the game against Everton, but also England's in Moldova next Sunday. There was abundant chapter and verse from the Tottenham's physiotherapist, Tony Lenaghan. It was not the same injury for which Anderton had had no fewer than three operations last season, but ominously, the result of those operations that

had placed strains on other areas of the groin.

Anderton, we were told, had been playing through pain. Terry Venables thought that in Euro 96, in which Anderton played five times, "he would last the distance. We got a pint of milk out of a half-pint bottle there."

Well, milk bottles have been known to shatter and it was surprising to hear Gerry Francis, the Tottenham manager, say "We're going to rest it and have treatment and see if ten or 12 days will make a difference. I am quite optimistic that he will be available for the Wimbledon game [a week on Wednesday]. It might have to be like that, this season. The biggest problem is having to play such a lot of games in such a short time."

There we have it, the purgatory of the modern pro, the poor little rich boy. The problem that all the various players' unions, whether they be the international Fifpro, which backed Bosman in his struggles, or our own Professional Footballers' Association, seem to ignore.

There is simply far too much football. The recent Olympic tournament, with three over-age players allowed in each under-23 team, was an added burden. Now the European Cup is to

BRIAN GLANVILLE



At White Hart Lane

be increased by eight clubs, chosen from the countries whose teams reach this season's quarter-finals.

It is meant to fend off the possibility of a breakaway league formed by Europe's richest clubs. But it still means still more football for top players.

Then there's the new format for the South American World Cup qualifying competition, which, instead of having little groups, all the countries are thrown in together. This means that European clubs, with South American stars

can wave goodbye to them for much of this season.

"Players of the world unite," one feels tempted to say. "You have nothing to lose but your pain." What Anderton clearly needs and clearly is not getting is a prolonged rest.

Joe Royle, Everton's down-right manager, summed up Saturday's first half with typical trenchancy: "Instantly forgettable. Both sides seemed to be trying to play as badly as they could."

He was happier about the second half, justified in thinking Everton should have won, but that had much to do with the fact that Tottenham lost yet another key player when the incisive Chris Armstrong went off with ankle and Achilles tendon injuries. One more blow for Francis.

His side might have scored in the first half when the impressive Andy Sinton whipped in a cross which Rued Fox met, only for Andy Hinchecliffe to head off the line. Everton threw away a glorious chance in the second half when Stuart's right-wing cross left Craig Short free on the far post, but he headed wastefully wide.

White Men Can't Jump is the title of a recent American film about basketball. Well, if they're Duncan Ferguson, they can jump and, at 6ft 4in,

that's really jumping. Tottenham and their young centre back, Sol Campbell, stood up to him well overall, but his header across goal from Hinchecliffe's corner gave Stuart, in turn, a header that Walker turned gallantly on to the bar. And when, five minutes from time, Campbell's impetuosity let Kanchelskis break clear, Walker made another fine save from Ferguson himself.

"Sometimes when Campbell comes out with the ball," Francis said charitably, "his momentum takes him so quickly into the next tackle. But he handled Ferguson superbly well. I think he's got a fantastic future. He's got pace, he's got strength and he'll get better."

So will Everton's Grant, a local boy. "I thought he had an excellent second half," Royle said. "He's got great talent. In the first half, I thought he was affected by the general malaise on the pitch and was passing to anybody — but as he improved, we improved."

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (4-2-1) I. Walker — J. Eastman, S. Campbell, C. Calderwood, C. Wilson — R. Fox, J. Dozzell, D. Howells, A. R. Rosenfield, 20th min.

EVERTON (4-5-1) M. Spill — L. Benson, D. Lindey, C. Short, A. Hinchecliffe — A. Fancher, G. Stuart, A. Grant, J. Parkinson, G. Speed — D. Ferguson

Referee: L. Dicks

Riley's new life leaves managers angry and confused



Pearce explosive free kick

Nottingham Forest 1
Middlesbrough 1

By RICHARD HOBSON

ALONGSIDE more celebrated faces, the arrival of Mike Riley into the FA Carling Premiership this season went unnoticed, but the impact of the first-year referee from Leeds on this fixture matched that of Ravaneli, Emerson or Jerkan.

Five days ago, he was rebuked by Graeme Souness, the Southampton manager, after the dismissal of Barry Venison at Leicester and, at the City Ground on Saturday, his rigid application of the laws ac-

counted for the sending off of Nigel Pearson, of Middlesbrough, and the booking of eight more players.

This was a pulsating game contested at a frantic pace that produced chances galore, but Bryan Robson, the Middlesbrough manager, made the refereeing the theme of his post-match interviews. Frank Clark, his Forest counterpart, suggested that Mr Riley had made "over-liberal use of the yellow card".

Robson's assertion that the match did not feature a single bad tackle was an exaggeration. When he watches the video today, he will see that his side was culpable to a degree. Emerson's third booking in as many games came for dissent

and Pearson, dismissed after clattering into Campbell, was cautioned initially for speaking out of turn. Indeed, the most unfortunate player was Pearson, who brandished an imaginary yellow card at the referee when Ravaneli appeared to encourage the dismissal of Jerkan and was promptly booked himself.

By that late stage, Pearce had enough reason to feel pleased with life that he could contemplate an injection of humour. His 68th-minute free kick from wide on the right soared past Alan Miller, the goalkeeper, who may have been unsighted.

Until that point, Middlesbrough's approach was the more menacing.

Barmby and Juninho found space to run at defenders while Emerson, combining the loping stride of Carlton Palmer with a light Brazilian touch, always threatened when he moved forward. Four minutes after half-time, he surged beyond Bar-Williams and passed inside intelligently for Juninho to beat Crossley with a first-time shot.

In keeping Juninho well forward, Middlesbrough constantly threatened on the break, but both he and Ravaneli were prone to shoot when colleagues waited in better positions.

Yet Forest, too, had their chances. Woan hit a post. Pearson turned away Campbell's header acrobati-

cally, while Saunders, still to open his account for the club, sped Ravaneli with a weak shot from a one-on-one.

Clark had been critical of his side when they lost 4-1 to Sunderland in midweek and fined six of his players for arriving late. This time, he marked them highly for application: a bit lower for football. "They were all here very early," he said. "I was the last to arrive... but I was still on time."

NOTTINGHAM FOREST (3-5-2) M. Crossley — C. Cooper, N. Jerkan, S. Pearce — S. Stone, A. Hoobler, C. Bar-Williams, I. Woan, C. Allen (sub: B. Roy, 75th) — D. Saunders, K. Campbell

MIDDLESBROUGH (3-5-2) A. Miller — S. Emerson, P. Pearson, P. Whelan, N. Cox, R. Mustoe, Emerson, Juninho, C. Fleming — N. Barmby, F. Ravaneli

Referee: M. Riley

FOOTBALL: BIRMINGHAM FIGHT BACK TO EARN DRAW

Hunt rescues point for bemused Francis

Sheffield United 4
Birmingham City 4

By MARK HODKINSON

FOOTBALL managers, so convention goes, are not overly fond of high-scoring games. It greys the hair, lines the face, shreds the nails — strange, then, that Trevor Francis, the Birmingham manager, should positively beam with health after his team's 4-4 draw with Sheffield United at Bramall Lane on Saturday.

I know coaches and managers usually bemoan performances like

that, but it was a marvellous match and great entertainment. We are in the entertainment business after all," he said.

Despite the goal-fest, neither side played particularly well. They were merely equal in their enthusiasm for generosity, swapping mistakes like gossip, and gambling forward, ever forward.

Michel Vonn, modelled the template within minutes of the kick-off. Instead of thumping a loose ball into the cranes and girders of the half-built John Street Stand, the centre back fell into a state of apoplexy as if hoping to move the ball by telepathy. Paul Furlong,

with appropriate pragmatism, collected and placed it expertly into the Sheffield net.

Mike Newell, still imparting FA Carling Premiership skills in the Nationwide Football League, floated the ball beyond Kelly to emphasise Birmingham's ascendancy. Just before half-time, Sheffield courted hope when Taylor volunteered a leg to an optimistic through-ball and it skimmed off his instep into the net.

Without any real design, Sheffield fell upon a slick of goals, scoring three within six minutes. Walker headed in from close range after some forehead ping-pong and Taylor slammed his shin into a low cross into the penalty area. The finest goal of the game came via a rare move of precision and mastery. Hutchison, who had hitherto sprayed misplaced passes around like a demonic garden hose, found White and the winger tore to the byline before crossing for Walker to force the ball home.

Francis appeared to have hot cinders in his training shoes at this point, hopping around excitedly a metre or so from the dugout as he waved players forward. There was more technique dancing to come.

Paul Devlin scurried in front of Vonn and, predictably, the Dutchman felled the speedy striker. Devlin took the penalty kick himself, smashing it defiantly past Kelly.

The final goal of an outlandish match arrived when Sheffield deserted their penalty area while Legg crossed to Hunt. The substitute literally passed the ball into the net. Just minutes before the end, Devlin, the most consistent player on either side, accelerated through Sheffield's defence and shot inches over the crossbar.

Francis, honest to a fault, admitted the game plan had gone more than a tad awry. "We were talking about keeping a clean sheet. We thought if we did that we would have a good chance of a draw. I think the most important moment was Sheffield United scoring just before half-time," he said.

Sheffield United (3-3-2): K Miller — R Page, S Palmer, K Miller — D Barclay, S Taylor, (sub: M Goss, 88), N Spalding, M Vonn, I Sandford, R Nelson — D Hutchison, M Patterson, D White — G Taylor, A Walker.

Birmingham City (4-4-2): I Benner — G Poole, S Bruce, G Green, G Ablett — P Devlin, B Hame, S Cottle, A Legg (sub: M Johnson, 82) — P Furlong, M Newell (sub: J Hunt, 45).

Referee: B Burns.

Watford's credentials called into question

Watford 0
Millwall 2

By PAT GIBSON

GRAHAM TAYLOR knew exactly what Kenny Jackett was going through. The former England manager had the same record as Jackett (one win, two defeats) after his first three games in charge of Watford in 1977.

Mind you, things were different at Vicarage Road in those days. Taylor had Elton John to back his ambition. Now, in his new role as general manager, he has no money readily available to enable Jackett to strengthen a side that did little to justify Watford's installation as favourites for an immediate return to the Nationwide Football League first division.

Millwall, who went down with them, looked a better bet. The harsh reality of relegation forced them to sell three of their best players — Rae, Thatcher and Keller — but the income allowed their manager, Jimmy Nicholl, to bring in £15 million-worth of Scottish talent, including Crawford, an impressive young striker.

Watford started brightly enough, but their heads began to drop as early as the twentieth minute, when Connolly was stopped in his tracks by a pulled hamstring. Ten minutes later,

Ludden went off as well and although Watford had experienced replacements in Penrice and Mooney, they never looked like recovering once Harle had been given time and space to score on the stroke of half-time.

Watford conceded a dreadful second goal when Webber was allowed to shrug off at least half-a-dozen tackles on his way from one penalty area to the other before giving Crawford the chance to beat Miller at his near post.

Jackett did not mince his words afterwards: "In the second half, we were devoid of ideas, hitting long hopeful balls to Devon White, losing our shape and a little bit of morale."

As for Taylor, he was too busy going about his new job to see more than 35 minutes of the game. There were stewards to brief, directors to meet, executive boxes to be attended, spectator facilities to be inspected and, while Jackett was fretting over the leaks in Watford's defence, the little matter of rain coming into the invalid enclosure. "I am enjoying it," he insisted — which was more than Jackett could say on Saturday night.

Watford: (3-5-2): K Miller — R Page, S Palmer, K Miller — D Barclay, S Taylor, (sub: M Goss, 88), N Spalding, M Vonn, I Sandford, R Nelson — D Hutchison, M Patterson, D White — G Taylor, A Walker.

Millwall: (5-3-2): T Carter — R Newman, T Winter, K Stevens, D Webber, M Harle — D Savage (sub: I. Nott, 74), J Dow, B Bony — C Malton, S Crawford (sub: P Hartley, 88).

Referee: C. Wilkes.



A surging run by Bosancic, of Barnsley, is brought to an end by this scything tackle yesterday

Barnsley enjoy last laugh

Barnsley 3
Huddersfield Town 1

By PETER BALL

SOUTH Yorkshire teams are taking more than local pride out of their derbies with West Yorkshire clubs at the moment. A week ago, Sheffield Wednesday won at Leeds United to go top of the FA Carling Premiership; yesterday lunchtime, Barnsley beat Huddersfield Town to move into second place in the Nationwide Football League first division on goals scored.

By the end, they were well worth their margin of victory, the more so because they had to overcome two apparently glaring errors by Gurnan Singh, the referee. The main one centred around Huddersfield's equaliser on the stroke of half-time.

From Cowan's throw-in, the ball bounced in front of Morrison and Davis and up over their heads and Watson, the Barnsley goalkeeper, to drop under the bar. Barnsley claimed, apparently with justification, that no one had touched the throw-in on its way into the net.

Singh gave the goal and told Sky television at the interval that the ball had touched Davis. No one else saw it do so and the cameras did not substantiate the claim. "I watched it three times and no one touched it, but then again we didn't defend against it well," Danny Wilson, the Barnsley manager, said philosophically afterwards.

At the time, Barnsley, understandably, were less philosophical, but they responded admirably, going on to dominate the second half. Clint Marcelle, their Trinidad and Tobago international, pulled Huddersfield apart with his pace. After a promising opening quarter, in which Watson had to make a fine point-blank stop from Stewart, Huddersfield were disappointing. By the close, they were clearly second best and some surly frustration showed through.

Morrison, their new skipper from Blackpool, was lucky to escape with a booking for a nasty foul on Marcelle, compounded by picking the prone Trinidadian up by the collar to shout abuse at him.

Barnsley, though, were able to ignore such surlyness. They had played with style, although their

opening goal had an element of fortune. Neil Thompson, a free transfer from Ipswich Town, curled in a low cross, Wilkinson swung at it and missed, which unsighted Francis and allowed Thompson to claim the goal.

Until Cowan's throw-in, Barnsley had looked more likely to increase their lead than be pulled back, even though Jenkins was keeping a close eye on Marcelle. When the teams returned after the interval, however, the marking role had been handed over to Bullock and Barnsley prospered.

After 73 minutes, Redfern turned in Eaden's cross to put them ahead again. A minute later, Wilkinson went round Gray and was pulled down, but the referee waved away the penalty. It did not matter. A minute after Huddersfield's double substitution, Thompson found Marcelle free of his marker and he beat Francis from close range.

Barnsley (3-4-3): D Watson — S Davis, M Appleby, A de Zeeuw — N Eaden, J Bosancic (sub: D Sheridan, 61min), N Redfern, N Thompson — C Marcelle — P Wilkinson, A Liddell.

Huddersfield Town (3-1-4-2): S Francis — K Gray, A Morrison, I Shotton (sub: S Collins, 21) — S Jenkins — R Edwards (sub: P Garton, 78), D Bullock, L Mallet (sub: P Field, 78), T Cowan — M Stewart, A Payton.

Referee: G Singh.

Telford plan for long-term future

Telford United 0
Gateshead 3

By WALTER GAMMIE

WANDER round the cinder banks behind the goals at Bucks-Head and you come across a row of discarded turnstiles, a tangled pile of ripped-out seats and a higgledy-piggledy stack of outdated advertising boards. It is all the evidence of a club trying piecemeal to keep up with rising ground safety requirements.

Faced, however, with an estimate of £400,000 for turning those cinder banks into acceptable terracing, Telford United, two weeks ago, committed themselves to the radical alternative: selling the ground and planning from scratch a 10,000-seat stadium. "It was the only alternative," Brian Taylor, the club's corporate director, said. "We had debts of £30,000 and reached our limit at the bank."

Having considered plans from commercial developers, Telford opted to sell Bucks-Head to Wrekin Council for £400,000. In three years, the new partnership hopes to have developed a sports complex on a site at Kelsley, a mile away. "We've got a lot of supporters," Taylor said. "They'd like us to stay at a ground with great associations — Geoff Hurst, Gordon Banks, FA Cup runs and all that. The future of the club lies, however, at a new stadium."

What those supporters — just 697 of them — witnessed on Saturday may have left them wishing the day arrives sooner. Two defeats in a week after an opening day win over Farnborough Town have dissipated the early optimism of a good season in the Vauxhall Conference.

After a featureless first half, Ken Hughes, in the home goal, allowed a cross by Ord to spin over the line. Suitably encouraged, Gateshead finished with a flourish: Steve Harkus, one of a trio of substitutes, turned in a cross by Foreman to wrap up victory five minutes after Lowe had curled a 20-yard free kick past the hapless Hughes.

Telford United (4-4-2): K Hughes — K Ashley, D Sheridan, S Foster, L Fowler — M Turner (sub: N Niblett, 46 min), S Eccleson, L Robinson, J Purdie — B Gray, D Russell (sub: R Woods, 67).

Gateshead (3-3-1-4-2): S Francis — J Watson, S Kitchen, P Hague, D Ord — G Pearson (sub: J Robinson, 73), K Lewis, S Russell — P Foulkes (sub: G Robinson, 88) — P Thompson (sub: S Harkus, 78), D Foreman.

Referee: M Warren.

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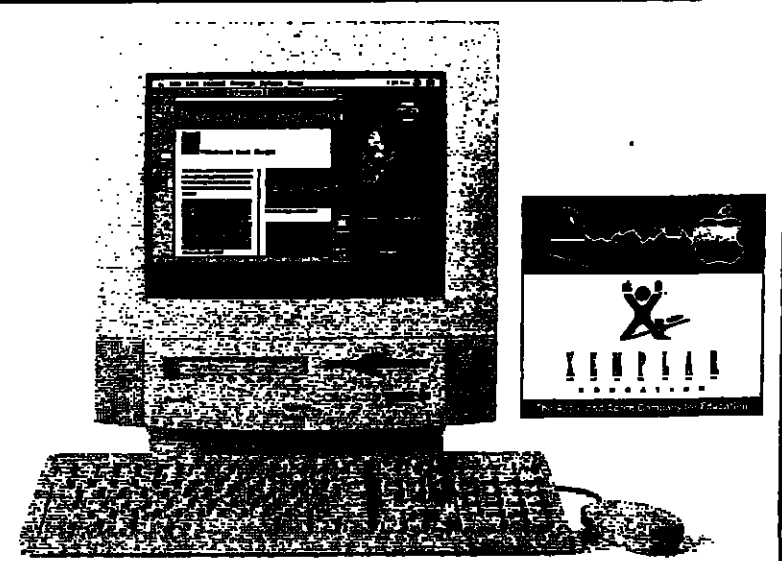
What was the name of the chieftain father of Indian princess and British bride, Pocahontas?

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Winners will be selected at random from all correct entries received by midnight on the closing date, Thursday, September 12, 1996.

New Zealand claim world supremacy

City mo on foot

guls fully ball's attr

Marshall, the influential New Zealand scrum half, slips a tackle during his side's victory at Loftus Versfeld

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Yet what of judgment? There's the rub. What impressions were left of artistry? What of the movement of hand and ball? Time and again in the first quarter, possession was won and maintained, but hardly any inviting gaps appeared: no wing had his chance to run full pelt, no full back was easily set loose. For all Wales's possession, their command of the ball and of territory, only Nigel Davies, after a couple of minutes, and Proctor, in the

SCOTTERS: Wales: Trites; N Davies (C); Proctor, Humphreys, Howley, Conwell-Lewis (S) (Glamorgan); Thomas, Corkery.

WALES: W Proctor (Llanelli), I Evans (Llanelli), G Thomas (Stridgond), N Jenkins (Pontypridd), R Howley (Pontypridd), J Williams (Cardiff), D Jones (Cardiff), J Davies (Neath), K James (Ebbw Vale), M Thomas (Neath), C H Thomas (Neath), J Williams (Pontypridd), S Williams (Neath). D Jones replaced by P Arnold (Neath) after his death. **THOMAS:** D Jones, D Thomas (Cardiff), P J Johns (Pontypridd).

SARGANTONS: D Arfield (Blairstown), A Bose (Mina, Fiji), S Glas (Geelong-Julesau and Geelong), J Burt (Geelong), J Walker (Cardiff and Wales); P Howard (Queensland and Australia), A Pichot (St John's, Canada), J Hay (Hawick), R Snow (Dunfermline, Scotland).

GUNSMEN: Marse, Fiji; M McCaff (Queensland and Australia), D Sims (Glasgow), D Collins (New Zealand), J McQuinn (Canada and New Zealand, captain). Gunsmen released by R Collins (Pontypridd and Cardiff).

Referee: J Fleming (Scotland).

JASON NISSÉ

Barrie Smith, Mike Davies and Don Fowkes brought the British Cellophane, of Bridgewater, their first national title (Gordon Allarale wrote). They beat Chris New Peter Formidge and Peter Dunstan, of Cowes Medina 21-17 in the final of the English Bowling Association triples championship. Eight shots on the eleventh end was the key to victory. Terry James, of Thrapston, Northamptonshire, won the national Champion of Champions singles defeating Dean Morgan, of Boscombe Cliff, 21-11.

disproportionate amount of software engineers (at least we will not have any problems with the on-board computer) as well as a geo-physicist, a taxi-driver and a company director, so I am not the only

task itself is not particularly onerous, but, when it is rough, no one likes being below decks. I still have not totally solved the sea-sickness problem — neither pressure-bands nor pills seem to help — but at least on the Fastnet sail it only lasts three days.

I am now really beginning to feel that this is actually going to happen. Sailing back from the Fastnet Rock and into Southampton left us feeling like genuine adventurers. I now have just an inkling of the feeling when you have travelled across whole oceans. I

Two laps from the end, Rob Hayles lost control on a sharp left-hander and, in falling, obstructed several riders. He was able to remount and continue, but by then

As the bell sounded the last lap, Joe Bayfield crashed into barriers, impeding pursuing riders. Tanner then made his move, expecting Walsham to be on his wheel, only to find himself alone in the lead and eventually the victor.

CRICKET

**Pakistan
Ather
the ba**

MICHAEL seems to have been in England since the rescue, but he hasn't been seen since the evening when he was rescued. No surprise there. The word "Attention" is untranslatable. It is used in the same sense concerning the origin of the word "Publication."

SECRET

[illegible]

Batsmen pro

CRICKET

Counties enjoy the benefits of imported talent

THERE are many in the English game who are infuriated by its inferiority complex and who refuse to accept the glib, defeatist generalisation that foreign means better. These patriotic souls have not had an reassuring week.

First, there was the setback at Lord's on Tuesday, when a thoroughly sound proposal from the cricket committee of the Test and County Cricket Board, recommending a two-year experiment without overseas players, was rejected by the clubs. Then came the news that foreign coaches, already in place at a third of first-class counties, are actively being sought by even more.

Here, it seems, is convincing evidence that the shires have no confidence in their own resources (let alone their own, elected committees), for not only do they refuse a timely opportunity to get by without outside assistance on the field, they are also trusting increasingly in imported coaching skills. In a week in which England are losing another Test series, it is a bleak message.

Perhaps, however, a distinction should be drawn between importing players and coaches. The argument against the former is valid and wide-ranging — they take up places that could better be used to encourage young Englishmen, they promote complacency among team-mates who come to depend upon them and their availability is increasingly erratic. There is no similar, sustainable argument against foreign coaches.

This may help explain why, for instance, Surrey seem reluctant to become embroiled in an unseemly auction to bring Waqar Younis back to the Oval as their overseas player but believe that in engaging Dave Gilbert, their Australian coach, they struck the bargain of this and many other seasons.

Surrey still bear the scars of Waqar's previous contract, when they were never confident he would be starting a season, and although his

ALAN LEE



Championship Commentary

match-winning capacity is undeniable, the risk level associated with his fitness and his freedom from commitments with Pakistan is too great. Glamorgan have already offered the equivalent of £100,000 per year. Surrey might wisely suspect that kind of money could be spent more advantageously.

Gilbert has transformed their dressing-room in a way that Waqar never did, nor could have been expected to do. Possibly, those who played for Surrey were not aware how their team was perceived by outsiders, how the atmosphere always seemed counter-



Jones influential

Contrived finishes demean title race

KENT and Somerset must have imagined themselves back in the discredited days of three-day cricket last Monday, when their captains came to an agreement that involved all the contingencies that the four-day game had purportedly left behind (Alan Lee writes). Kent agreed not to enforce the follow-on if Somerset declared a distance before they had lost the game, and Somerset agreed to move up to second in the county championship.

This is not the kind of cricket that the modern championship should permit and, in horse racing circles, it would have resulted in an immediate stewards' inquiry. Kent appear to have survived virtually without comment, but those at Lord's responsible for the conduct of the

game should be keeping a close eye on the remainder of the programme.

Seven teams retain a realistic chance of the title with four weeks to play. It is an intriguing situation, but also one fraught with potential for artificial finishes, unearned results and widespread resentment.

The weather will have its say — indeed, it has already done so. In the current round of games, only Essex, on course for a fifth consecutive victory, and Yorkshire, overwhelming masters of the Roses match, can be confident of winning naturally.

Some disruptions and some harsh deprivations are inevitable, but it is to be hoped that the championship will be decided as equitably as possible, and certainly without further recourse to the devices the game had been learning to despise.

productive and how nobody was surprised when they annually splintered into decline. But Gilbert knew, and he did something about it.

A similar assignment was undertaken this year at Derby, where the high profile of Dean Jones (who is worth whatever money he is being paid as overseas player) should not camouflage the role of his fellow Victorian, Les Stillman.

They came as a package. Jones made that clear from the start, and if the captain has led by bold example and loud denunciation of those who seek expedients and excuses, the coach has been an assiduous background force, both technically and temperamentally.

Derbyshire, whose only championship matches were won 60 years ago, lead the table this morning. At the start of the current round of games, their closest pursuers were Surrey and Kent, a coach with an Australian coach, in Daryl Foster. Pure coincidence, or a salutary lesson? More and more counties are coming to believe it is the latter.

This summer, two distinguished West Indians, Malcolm Marshall and Desmond Haynes, have taken senior coaching jobs on the South Coast, at Hampshire and Sussex respectively. At Worcester, Dave Houghton, recently reinstated as captain of Zimbabwe, is supervising a difficult period of transition. These six imported coaches will all be in place next year and it will be a great surprise if their numbers are not swelled.

Lancashire are seeking a new coach, now that they must acknowledge the loss of David Lloyd to England. They sounded out Graham Gooch, but nothing is likely to come of it, at least while he continues to make centuries for Essex, where his home and heart belong. Yorkshire have yet to make a senior coaching appointment and, like their neighbours, are inclined to look long distance. Rumours abound about imminent changes at Nottingham. So, three Test grounds, three big counties. Will it be three more foreign coaches? If so, why?

There have, of course, been failures in this sphere. Bob Simpson made little impression on county cricket when at Leicester and the same applied to Mike Procter at Northampton. Yet the potential benefits of a Stillman or a Gilbert are that they offer detachment and freshness, that they are not tainted by some of the depressingly workaday attitudes of the county game.

The name of Allan Border continues to surface whenever a suitable vacancy arises. Yorkshire and Lancashire have both been linked with him, apparently groundlessly, and there is no particular reason to covet him, for the best players often make the least aware and innovative coaches. Nevertheless, his name, and others of similar distinction, will be debated in more than one county committee room this autumn in what is fast becoming a vote of no confidence in English coaching.



Cowan, who did the hat-trick against Gloucestershire, has impressed men of influence in cricket's hierarchy. Photograph: Gill Allen

Cowan on fast track for promotion

Ivo Tennant meets a young pace bowler who could be catapulted into the England A team this winter

ASHLEY Cowan, like many a fast bowler, is not prone to self-doubt. He had played two championship matches when, in dressing-room pleasantries, he told Keith Fletcher that he was not intending to take part in any club cricket this season because he would be playing for Essex. He has shown such forthright promise since then that there is considerable conjecture over whether a place will be found for him on England's A tour this winter.

These rumours are not ill-founded. In his judgmental way, Raymond Illingworth has let his view be known that Cowan, a gangly 21-year-old with an enthusiasm for a number of sports and marked similarities to Neil Foster, has a future. Ian Botham, who knows a thing or two about bowlers who look to swing the ball away from the right-hander, watched him bowl eight overs in a Sunday League slogaball in May and went so far as to say he should be attached to England's parties for the Test matches this summer. Graham Gooch, who will be the coach on the A tour to Australia, has similarly been impressed.

It would be hard to find three more discerning judges of a cricketer. Gooch, who appreciates Cowan's resemblance to Foster, said he was in "the shake-up" for the A tour — and that, after no more than ten championship matches, is quite something. He took the first hat-trick of his career last week, but 29 championship wickets in eight matches this season is not exceptional. Intuition is being preferred to hard statistics, as is often the case in other cricketing countries.

Reference books describe Cowan, who is 6ft 4in, as RM as opposed to RMF. That is to say, he is still regarded as right-arm medium. Some revising might need to be done before next season, for, according to Gooch, he has added a yard of pace of late. "Ashley has come on a lot over the last 12 months. He is tall, moves the ball out and has the potential to make a lot of strides forward. He has to get the ball in the right spot, but for somebody who is just starting off, he

has great promise." Cowan says his remark about a first-team place to Fletcher, the coach who carries the grandiose term of cricket consultant, was meant in jest. He is sufficiently personable to carry it off.

He learnt the game from his father, a Hertfordshire businessman and former England amateur footballer, before coming under the guidance of Foster, the former Essex and England bowler. "After I had a back operation two years ago, Neil helped me to change my action drastically from sideways on to chest on. He was a brilliant bowler who knew what it was like to have a back full of plates and screws," Cowan said.

He went on: "I was suffering through bowling with my chest facing down the pitch and my feet sideways on. Neil, who had recommended me to Essex when I was nearly 18 and playing for Cambridgeshire under-19s, oversaw

me for a month, just standing at the crease turning my arm over with my feet pointing down the pitch. Then Geoff Arnold became one of the Essex bowling coaches and taught me what was wrong with my action.

"Nothing seemed to go right last season, when I was still sorting myself out, and I have also suffered through wearing inadequate boots, but this season I added pace, through gaining confidence and the advice of colleagues, such as Stuart Law, and have managed to hurry some batsmen. I am a swing bowler as such, moving the ball away from the bat, but am trying to seam the ball off the pitch as well."

Cowan did not expect to play as many matches as he has done this year, at least not before Darren Cousins was injured. It was evident that his progress had been recognised when he was included in the TCCB XI to play South Africa A earlier this month. "I have made plans to coach in Durban this winter, but, although Graham Gooch has not given me any indication about the A tour, I have heard the talk about me going on it. Plans can always be changed."

Larkins a major player in a minor key

BY PAT GIBSON

MAYBE they did not like his smoking in the pristine atmosphere of their new Riverside home. Perhaps they thought his partiality to a pint or several at close of play was setting a bad example to their younger players. Whatever the reason, Wayne Larkins was too proud to accept that it was any decline in his batting that persuaded Durham to sack him at the end of last season.

After all, he had just set up an innings victory over Nottinghamshire to spare Durham the championship wooden spoon with the 59th first-class hundred of his career and his tenth in four seasons with them when Geoff Cook, the director of cricket, called him into the office.

"This is the worst day of my life," Cook said as he went about the awful business of telling the man with whom he had opened the Northamptonshire batting for years, the man he had invited to become one of the cornerstones of cricket's newest first-class county, that his services were no longer required.

"The worst day of your life?" Larkins exploded. "You've still got a job, pal, I haven't."

It was the end of a beautiful friendship, but the start of a new life for arguably the most exciting opening batsman in English cricket over the past 25 years. Within weeks, Larkins was considering offers from the northern leagues and the minor counties and soon he had not one new job but two.

He chose Richmond and North Yorkshire league, because everything about the place felt right, and his native Bedfordshire. "The only minor county I really wanted to play

for". A subsequent offer from Kent was rejected on the grounds that he was already committed, although they still have first option if he should return to the first-class scene.

At first he struggled to come to terms with league cricket, but he has since made five hundreds for Richmond and

he took the minor counties by storm. When the championship season finished last week, he had scored more than 1,000 runs at an average of 73, with six centuries. More than that, he had helped Bedfordshire, bottom of the eastern division last year, qualify for the NatWest Trophy next season and reach the final of the minor counties knockout competition, in which they will play Cheshire at Lord's on Wednesday.

Larkins has been there on grander occasions with England and Northamptonshire, but the match on Wednesday will mean as much to him as any of them.

"I never thought I would be going back to Lord's unless it was as a guest of Cornhill," he said. "Bedfordshire have not done too well in recent years and, when I said at the start of the competition that we should aim to get to Lord's, they just

laughed at me. It's a dream for some of these boys and I'm very pleased for them."

Bedfordshire are suitably grateful. "Wayne has been superb," Philip Hoare, their captain, said. "Leaving aside the runs he has scored, he has been everything you could wish for in a professional. Some of them can be aloof, but he has never come the big 'am'. He is not one to dictate how things should be done, but he will often have a word, in a quiet, Wayne Larkins sort of way."

As for Larkins, now 42, he is a contented man living by the racecourse at Sedgfield and enjoying his cricket so much that he wants to play for at least two more years. "I've played with a lot of pride, you know, I really have," he said. "And it has given me a lot of pleasure."

Perhaps he should thank Geoff Cook for that.



Larkins: enduring talent

SATURDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

British Assurance county championship

Essex v Gloucestershire

COLCHESTER (third day of four). Gloucestershire won with second innings victory in a rain-affected match. Gloucestershire 230, Essex 130. Gloucestershire 175, Essex 110. Gloucestershire 175, Essex 110.

Essex 1st Innings: 130 (40 overs). Gloucestershire 1st Innings: 230 (70 overs).

Essex 2nd Innings: 110 (35 overs). Gloucestershire 2nd Innings: 175 (45 overs).

Essex 3rd Innings: 110 (35 overs). Gloucestershire 3rd Innings: 175 (45 overs).

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Essex v Gloucestershire

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Essex v Gloucestershire

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Arabian Story to spoil Proton's double attempt

EPSON CHANNEL 4
2.20 Northern Sun defied top weight in taking style at Brighton eight days ago and this progressive Chantrelle colt from an in-form yard can follow up provided he handles the easier ground. Shall We Go showed markedly improved form to land a Newmarket selling recently and is a threat, along with Colombia.

2.50 After a career-best effort at Goodwood last month when coming from last to first, Youdonsays was a severe disappointment at Haydock where the Joe Naughton-trained filly was heavily backed but badly outpaced early on. She may lack the early speed to take advantage of a decent draw. Longwick Lad is well treated but poorly drawn, and the in-form Midnight Spell is preferred.

3.25 Proton, winner of this race last year, and the progressive Arabian Story are the pair to concentrate on. Proton was a good fifth to Benter Offer at Ascot last time after several disappointing efforts which mean Reg Akhurst's runner is off a 7lb lower mark compared to last year. He is sure to go well but preference is for Arabian Story, who has improved with every race, including when sixth to Freequent at Goodwood last time.

NEWCASTLE
2.05 In a wide-open handicap, Persian Faye is weighted to go close and should appreciate the step back to seven furlongs after just failing to see out a mile here three weeks ago. Ashjar, from Tom Jones's in-form yard, has chances along with Victor Pond.

2.35 Sea Victor, Danjing and Embryonic filled the first three places at Chester three weeks ago and are closely matched, although the booking of

CHEPSTOW

THUNDERER
2.15 Ajabib, 2.50 Al Azhar, 3.20 Wizard King, 3.50 Kewarra, 4.20 Shabanez, 4.50 Course Fishing.
Our Newmarket Correspondent:
3.20 WIZARD KING (nap).

GOING GOOD
DRAW: 5F-1M, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

2.15 EUROPEAN BREEDERS FUND JULIET MAIDEN STAKES
(2-Y-O fillies, £3,534; 1m 14yd) (8 runners)
1-2 ALVAH 16 (R) J. Dwyer 8-11
2-3 BAYLY 14 (R) J. Dwyer 8-11
3-4 CLEAR THE AIR 17 (C) J. Dwyer 8-11
5-6 FLY DOWN TO RIO 17 (C) J. Dwyer 8-11
7-8 NADIA 16 (R) J. Dwyer 8-11
9-10 NADIA 16 (R) J. Dwyer 8-11
11-12 NADIA 16 (R) J. Dwyer 8-11
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Christian Dymond goes on the trail and finds out that it is the scent of aniseed that makes a hound run

It's a dog's life on the lakeland fells

An hour and a half before the hounds line up for the first race of the evening the trail is being laid on the Lake District fells. The two trailers set off from a point half way round the ten mile course. One trailer walks towards the start, the other goes towards the finish.

They each drag a heavy piece of cloth soaked in aniseed and paraffin along the ground. The aniseed provides the scent for the hounds to follow while the paraffin prevents it from evaporating.

Dramatic scenery forms the backdrop to tonight's event. The Old Man of Conistone (2633 ft) glowers at the two hundred people gathered for this midweek hound trail, and to the west there are sweeping



Owners hold their eager hounds by the scruff of the neck as they line them up for the start. The dogs are marked with a spot to ensure that they cannot be switched for a fresh dog during the race.

SPORT FOR ALL

views of Conistone Water and Grizedale Forest. Considering the biting wind and the threatening skies, the attendance is good. But then hound trailing has a passionate following and many people breed their own runners.

Margaret Baxter, the secretary of Cumbria's Hound Trailing Association (HTA), says: "The sport satisfies those who like to see their hounds running and hunting. But it is not a bloodsport. The only thing the dogs are hunting is a scent on the ground."

With John Wicks, one of the trailers, still 400 yards away from the starting line, the 26 senior hounds (those of one year and over) in the first race are already emitting their familiar yelping and yowling sounds in anticipation of what lies ahead.

The dogs are off the leash now, the owners gripping them by the flesh at the back of the neck. A mark is made on the neck of each hound to discourage those who might fancy substituting a fresh dog somewhere along the trail.

Mr Wicks has come to a halt about two hundred yards from the dogs. They have picked up

the scent of the aniseed and are desperate to be off. The starter waves his white flag and they are released. Streaming out across the spongy turf, the hounds head for the hills.

From April 1 until the end of October this scene is repeated some 1,200 times under the auspices of the HTA, which has 1,000 members in Cumbria. The sport is also practised in North Yorkshire, the southern part of the Scottish Borders and Southern Ireland. Each area has its own differently named association.

In Cumbria hound trailing originated in the last century,

with races held between fox-hounds belonging to different huntsmen in Cumberland and Westmorland. Later, trail hounds were bred from fox-hounds and crossing between them is still allowed.

The price of a good trail hound, smaller and lighter than its foxhound relative, can be as much as £1,000. £50 to £80 will be enough for puppy.

Tricia Stainton and Nick Wilson, who are Lakeland farmers, have entered their three-year-old bitch, Charity, in the first race. They're hoping for at least sixth place which will give them £1.80p in

prize money. Prize money is usually low in order to keep costs low. 50p is the normal HTA race entry fee. Dogs have to be entered for a race at least ten minutes before.

Like most owners of entrants, Ms Stainton and Mr Wilson follow the dogs' action on the fells through binoculars. Sometimes the hounds come into view and an excited buzz is heard among the gathering, but with the naked eye the dogs are simply white blobs. Binoculars are a must.

Towards the end of the race the crowd moves to a line 20 yards behind the finish. Only

officials, catchers for the first six hounds and the person operating the cumcorder which is essential for close-run races are allowed up to the finishing line itself.

When the dogs come into sight and begin crossing the last 400 yards of moorland a familiar sound is heard again. But this time it is the owners, shouting and bawling, blowing whistles and banging small plastic buckets which contain a reward for their dog's efforts. Charity's is cold tea and veal.

Ten miles, and 29 minutes, after the start of the race the first two hounds cross the line almost neck and neck, claiming the £10.30 first prize and £5 second prize for their owners.

Charity is seventh which is one place short of earning a point in this season's championship for the top senior and top puppy.

Mr Wilson is the fourth generation of his family to be involved in the sport. Ms Stainton's interest goes back 15 years. "I have a great affection for the hounds and I love the competition. We trail three



The five bookies at the course were doing good business among the 200-strong crowd

and the process repeated many times. Other hounds are introduced to the training so that the puppy gets used to company.

One of the couple's puppies, Banjo, is in the second event at Conistone. Because the race is only for those in their first season of running, the distance is limited to five miles. Now a new trail has been laid and 29 puppies go to the starting line, or the slip as it is called, and begin yelping with excitement before the off.

This time the finish is extraordinary. The first two puppies get to the line but suddenly veer off to the side. It is number three which takes the main prize. Neil Webster, who works at Barrow shipyards by day and is a hound-trail bookie by night and on Saturdays, says he has never seen anything like this in ten years of trailing. He is one of five bookies here tonight. Banjo comes in eighth. As nearly always happens every dog finishes the course.

The third race is the "open restricted". It is open to all hounds except those who have won four or more trails in the last two years. Foxtrof, the third of Ms Stainton and Mr Wilson's charges, is one of 34 runners but, sadly, comes home unplaced.

The couple are not too disappointed. The hound pulled a muscle at the start of the season and is a bit overweight. A few more races should do the trick. He ran again at Conistone three days later and took second place in an event for hounds which have never won a trail race.



Laying the aniseed trail

times a week and when the season is over we train the puppies we breed," she says. Trained puppies are about nine months old. Training involves either Ms Stainton or Mr Wilson hiding behind a wall which has an aniseed scent leading up to it. If the hound successfully follows the scent over a short distance it gets a treat when it finds them. The distance is lengthened



Owners urging their dogs to make a sprint for the finish

TRAILING INFORMATION

Cumbria season finishes end of October. Fixtures shown in Whitehaven News and Westmorland Gazette. Meetings in Whitehaven area (12.45) and Torver (13.30) today. Contact: Hound Trailing Association: 01229 860227

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SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

Few defenders found the right switch at trick two when this deal was played in a large pairs event.

Dealer West	Love all	Match-point pairs
♠ 654 ♥ 1065 ♦ 54 ♣ AJ92	♠ 654 ♥ 1065 ♦ 54 ♣ AJ92	♠ A8732 ♥ 843 ♦ Q98 ♣ Q7

Contract: Four Hearts by South

Lead: King of spades

North opened One Diamond and some Easts overcalled One Spade. South either jumped to Four Hearts directly, or deferred that bid until the second round of bidding, but the final contract was almost universal. After the natural lead of the king of spades, West had a problem. At some tables, he simply continued with a second spade. South ruffed, drew trumps and then, requiring either the queen of diamonds to fall or the ace of clubs to be right, played off the two top diamonds and trumped a diamond. When the king of clubs proved to be an entry, declarer had 11 tricks.

Other defenders led a diamond at trick two with the idea of exhausting declarer of diamonds. South went up with the ace, ruffed a diamond, and later returned to dummy with the king of clubs to come to the same 11 tricks.

Those tables at which East

overcalled One Spade had the best chance. Now, it was less likely that declarer had both red suits completely sewn up, so West could see that it was necessary to play a club to knock out dummy's side entry. After a low club at trick two, South has to lose three clubs and a spade.

□ The Red Cross London bridge tournament, in aid of the British Red Cross, London Branch, will be played in three separate heats in September, with the final, including reception and dinner, on Wednesday October 2. All events are played in the House of Commons. Prizes include Swiss watches and trips to Paris. Entry £100 per person. For further information, contact Mrs M Zangrilli at 0171-235 8577 (phone) or 0171-235 8593 (fax).

□ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

DASSIEVANGER

- a. An eagle
- b. A vintage car
- c. Anger at being deceived

EPITRICHUM

- a. The top of a pediment
- b. A membrane
- c. A pustular rash

BUFFLEHEAD

- a. An intellectually challenged person
- b. The tip of a mineshaft
- c. A big-headed duck

CHAVEL

- a. An ostler's shovel
- b. To mump food
- c. A jump at rollerblading

Answers on page 38

KEENE on CHESS

By RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Top marks

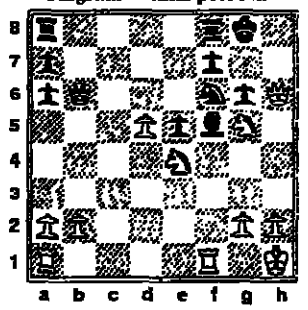
Karl Mah, the England junior, made the magnificent score of 7/9 in the Junior Olympiad in Montenegro. Unfortunately, his teammates did not perform so well overall, leaving England equal sixth out of 18, behind Romania, Hungary and Russia in gold, silver and bronze positions.

White: Mah (England)
Black: Bekker Jensen (Denmark)
Junior Chess Olympiad
Montenegro, 1996

King's Indian Defence

1 d4	Nf6
2 c4	g6
3 Nc3	Bg7
4 e4	0-0
5 f4	0-0
6 Nf3	Na6
7 Be2	e5
8 h6	dxe5
9 d5	c6
10 Bg5	Qb6
11 Qd2	cxds
12 cxd5	h5
13 Bx3	Qa5
14 Bxa6	bxa6
15 Bxh6	Bxh6
16 Qxh6	Nf6
17 0-0	Nf6
18 Ng5	Qb6

Diagram of final position



Solution on page 38

Challenge a champion

Anatoly Karpov, the Fide world champion, today takes on the world in an historic virtual chess match on the Internet. After every move by Karpov, Internet users will have ten minutes to enter their reply against him.

All readers of The Times with Internet access are welcome to try their hand against the champion. A server will select the most frequently proposed move and execute it.

The Internet site is <http://www.tele.fi/karpov> and play will begin at 11.00am UK time.

Times book

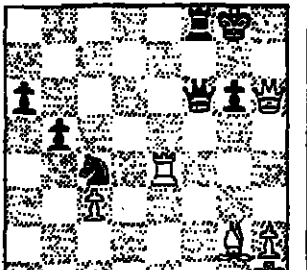
The Times Winning Moves 2 contains 240 chess puzzles from international grandmaster Raymond Keene's daily column in The Times, and is available now from bookshops from B.T. Stanford Ltd tel: 01376 33276 at £6.99 plus postage and packing.

□ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Andersson - Nijboer, Ter Apel, 1996. Ulf Andersson is best known for his solid positional style, turning tiny advantages into eventual victory. However, he also has a keen tactical eye, as can be seen from this position. How did he continue?



Solution on page 38

INDUSTRIAL STUDIES

De Montfort, N1H7, H640.
East London, N611
Liverpool, L7N1
Middlesex, Q550
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38 BUSINESS NEWS / RADIO

THE TIMES MONDAY AUGUST 26 1996

Oxford graduates are suspicious of the university's plan to open a £40 million business school next month. Their Alma Mater is famous for many things, but efficient management is not one of them. The collegiate and tutorial systems, although highly sociable, are based on 14th-century, not 20th-century, management theories.

City councillors are furious that the business faculty should be built on ancient sports grounds. A new "town versus gown" fight, this time between economists and environmentalists, is in full progress. So is the MBA course of the blind leading the blind?

Certainly not, says Anthony Hopwood, who will run the business school. With typically Oxonian modesty, he claims that it will quickly eclipse Britain's existing business schools and stand shoulder-to-shoulder with America's best, Harvard and Wharton.

The Oxford business school has a twofold strategy. First, Oxford business graduates will be geared towards the science and technology sector rather than finance. The City is not a target for the pupils.

Their ultimate destination is more likely to be a multinational company producing pharmaceuticals, cars or computers. The intricacies of bond or derivative markets will be left untouched. Instead, standard economics lectures and management studies will be complemented by compulsory science and engineering courses, crowned by an industry placement at the end of the course. Oxford business graduates will be more at home at a workbench than in a debating society.

The other main strength of Mr Hopwood's school will be its integration into Oxford's world-class academic culture. Britain's potential future industrial leaders will be studying as well as networking with young, highly ambitious lawyers, engineers and civil servants. They will have access to one of the finest

Can Oxford create an industrial elite?



Wafic Said, a Middle East businessman who gave £20 million, wanted to fund the school

libraries in the world, the Bodleian, and have the benefit of tuition by specialists in every field, recruited from the university's other faculties.

If Oxford's track record of producing leaders in the most high-profile sectors of society is anything to go by, politics being the most obvious example with six Oxonian Prime

Ministers since the Second World War, the two-pronged strategy should be highly successful. Executives and managers across British industry have already signalled strong interest in the creation of an industrial elite from Oxford.

But does Oxford really need a business school? Should not its limited resources rather

be spent on expanding its existing strength in science and technology? The resources argument does not really wash, Wafic Said, the Middle East businessman who donated £20 million, would not necessarily have given money to the university itself. He wanted to fund a business school.

But even if money had to be diverted from the university to the MBA programme, its creation would still be justified. Under the present system undergraduates cannot choose a straightforward economics or business course but have to take compulsory politics and philosophy courses in tandem. And at the postgraduate level the university's so far lacklustre business teaching has been dragging down the reputation of Oxford graduates in industrial circles.

Furthermore, the other UK business schools have never made a major impact. The schools in Manchester and London have very few high-profile old boys or girls. Cambridge, of course, also has a business school, but the only thing it is famous for are long communal bus trips to decaying industrial structures in the North of England.

However, while prospects for Oxford seem rosy in comparison, financial worries still exist. The Oxford business school is desperately looking for more donations. Under an agreement with Mr Said the university has to match his funds. So far, it has collected only £12 million and is at present hunting for another £8 million.

Meanwhile, the first students will be arriving next month and Mr Hopwood describes them as 40 of the brightest young minds from around the world. With such talent, the zeal for modern management may finally rub off on the university's ever so lovable but inefficient administration.

OLIVER AUGUST

New housing seeks a home

Builders claim they are barred from where people want to live, reports Martin Waller

I was a "delightful quiet location in Worth". It was situated in a "peaceful conservation area". It was probably well-appointed, and handy for all amenities. An early viewing may well have been advised, even. There was only one snag. It was 50 yards from the M23.

One should not be too shocked at the false praise heaped by that housebuilder on his product, even if the newspaper advertisements attracted a prosecution from trading standards officers and a fine of £2,000. The builder's problem was one shared with much of that industry. The house was in the wrong place.

The old estate agent's cliché that only three factors are important in selling homes — location, location and location — has never been truer than in the current housing "boom". Good family homes are selling as fast as they can be advertised, and their prices are rising as a result. Yet private housebuilding orders are now at a four-year low, according



Piecemeal development of picturesque villages is currently ruled out in the shires, which are facing rising demand for housebuilding sites

to the latest data from the Department of the Environment, and no one is betting on when they will move up again. Until this happens, housebuilders cannot hope to return to normal profitability.

This paradox is partly explained by the upturn being far more localised than in previous housing booms. It is also being driven by actual need far more than any frantic desire to climb onto the home-

owning ladder before even the first rung is out of reach. Buyers are therefore more choosy.

A four-bedroom home in traditional London commuter-land may sell for anything between £250,000 and £300,000, depending on whether it is in trendy Islington or more suburban Wandsworth. Try selling the same size home in the more run-down parts of London's Docklands, where developers are blocked because that was the only land available, and you would not even approach six figures — if you found a buyer at all.

That family home in the suburbs will have had many owners since it was built a century ago, and may need money spent on it: the one in Docklands is brand new, new kitchen, the works. But no one wants to live there. This is why many of the big builders are not celebrating along with the rest at the great housing party.

First, the market itself. In 1988, 1.5 million homes changed hands. Last year the total was 1.1 million, and most estimates put this year's figure at between 1.2 and 1.3 million. On average, over the past 30 years, 12 per cent of households have moved home each year. If this average applied now, there would be 1.6 million moves.

Little surprise that Roger Humber, director of the House Builders' Federation, sounds almost comically cautious when he describes the

current recovery as "the beginning of the right kind of trend, starting from a very low base".

Harry Hill, managing director of Hambro Countrywide, whose estate agents cover most of the country, says that the number of actual house transactions is rising at a uniform rate in most areas, but prices are not. "Prices are rising rather more quickly in good-quality London suburbs than they are elsewhere," he said. "There are huge areas which are seeing no price increases at all. Price increases tend to stimulate potential sellers to put their homes on the market, and this new supply then dampens prices again."

Mr Humber says that this sort of stepped effect is what the market can look forward to for the next couple of years, at least. His members are now seeing a swift recovery in the rate at which their new homes are being taken up, with reservations rising by 30 per cent a week in July and August. His concern is where they will build the homes that the country will need in the future.

"What housebuilders are being forced increasingly to do is to build on secondary and tertiary locations," he says. "These might be light industrial sites that are no longer needed in the suburbs, or huge disused factories and docks in inner-city areas. "When I look

at some of the new houses that are being built, I'm horrified," Mr Humber says.

"They are being built on what I consider to be wholly atrocious locations. They are invariably tiny, on main roads and without proper access to the back. They might be fine for single people and professional couples. But are we creating satisfactory environments for families?"

Here, Mr Humber is raising an issue that has implications far beyond the future profits of the nation's housebuilders. In June, John Gummer, the Environment Secretary, addressing the Royal Town Planning Institute, opened what he called the Places for People debate. This would decide how, and where, the 4.4 million new households estimated to be created between 1991 and 2016 should be housed.

The environmental lobby wants them to go to inner-city areas, saving the green belt and avoiding the inevitable road chaos and pollution that would be the result of yet more building there. The housebuilders, for entirely commercial reasons, would prefer to build out of town.

One volume housebuilder aimed squarely at the middle to lower end of the market, and unwilling to be identified, said: "Policy is being set without the necessary legislation to allow a reasonable distribution of zoned land (land that can be developed) in

the places where people traditionally want to live. The market for good land is competitive, and so it's expensive. We have to build houses, and our target market is Middle England. We build where people can afford, so we have to entice them to areas that they wouldn't necessarily have thought of in the first place."

This means that the builder must put in extra transport and other forms of infrastructure. The site will probably need expensive landscaping and other amenities — a model village, in fact. All this means lower margins than building in the prosperous suburbs. However, outside the walls of that new village might be dreadful schools, non-existent public transport and a terrifying crime rate. These are all problems beyond the ability of builders to solve.

It is classic chicken-and-egg — the area will only become attractive enough to tempt people to move there once enough people have moved there.

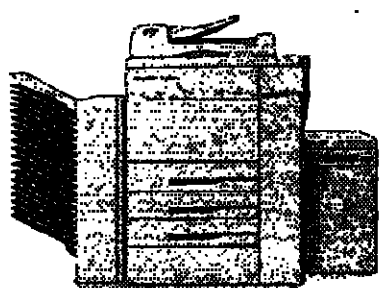
The Government has given few pointers to its position. Mr Gummer said that planning policies would steer development into inner-city areas rather than on the edge of town and in the green belt. However, his critics among the housebuilders say that by initiating the debate he has avoided providing a solution — conveniently pushing any solution to beyond the next election.

The problem is by no means limited to London and other big cities. As many as a third of those new households will have to be in a huge corridor curving through the English shires, from Wiltshire through Oxfordshire and Northamptonshire and on to Cambridge. This is where rising population is following the creation of new jobs. However, the planning constraints here are as tight as those in the green belt.

Piecemeal development of picturesque villages is out; so is any founding of vast new towns on agricultural land. Mr Humber says: "It's inexplicable — housing starts are down, there are fewer suitable sites available, yet net reservations are rising by 30 per cent week on week."

"We are convinced we will have customers for the next 20 years. But the planning system has become a political football."

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Answers from page 34

DASSIEVANGER

(a) The bateleur eagle, *Terathopius ecaudatus*. From the Afrikaans *dassie* or Rock Rabbit of the Cape + *vanger* (catcher). "A great black mountain eagle. We know him at once for a bateleur (cock of the mountain), or dassievanger (cooney-catcher)."

EPITRICHUM

(b) A thin cellular membrane which overlies the epidermis and hair during foetal life, usually disappearing before birth. From the Greek *epi* upon + *trichon* the diminutive of *trichos* hair. "The epitrachium, so named because the hairs are developed beneath it, and when they grow out in the sixth month this surface layer of flat epithelium is shed."

BUFFLEHEAD

(c) A North American duck (*Bucephala albeola*), the head of which appears to be disproportionately large. Apparently a corruption of *buffalo head*. *American Wildfowl Shooting*, 1874: "In the deep water varieties I shall treat of the bufflehead or butterball."

CHAVEL

(d) To mump or mumble (food). A variant of *jowl* a cheek. D. H. Lawrence. *The White Peacock*, 1911: "The bracken lay under the trees, broken and chavelled by the restless wild winds of the long winter."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 Rf4 wins, e.g. 1... Qx4 2 Bx5: R7 3 Qx4

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia \$	2.08	1.90
Austria Sch	17.28	16.78
Belgium Fr	50.02	48.92
Canada \$	2.230	2.070
Cyprus Cyp£	0.749	0.694
Denmark Kr	9.51	8.71
Finland Mk	7.50	6.94
France Fr	6.29	7.64
Germany DM	2.47	2.26
Greece Dr	364	361
Hong Kong \$	12.63	11.63
Iceland	113	93
Ireland Pt	1.02	0.94
Italy Lira	5.28	4.63
Japan Yen	182.10	166.10
Malta	0.596	0.541
Netherlands Gld	2.744	2.514
New Zealand \$	2.38	2.17
Norway Kr	10.55	8.75
Portugal Esc	248.50	230.00
Spain Ptas	166.66	150.00
Switzerland Fr	10.90	10.10
Switzerland Fr	2.01	1.83
Turkey Lira	136304	128304
USA \$	1.649	1.519

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Torture on a musical rock

A Question of Classics, Classic FM, 1.00pm.

I have been kicking myself all week. Asked by quizmaster Mike Read to name Verdi's last opera, which I know as well as I know my own name, I said *Otello*. That's the kind of nonsense that can come out of you when you voluntarily submit to public torture. Classic FM's new musical quiz is the inevitable outcome of this station's successful policy of running competitions on air. I sat next to team captain Tony Slattery, that gifted humorist, which gave me a good view of the hated rivals led by the irrepressible Barry Took. Even on a vintage point on stage, *A Question of Classics* sounded like an enjoyable mix of musical knowledge (or lack of it) and downright fun.

Composed on the Body, Radio 3, 12.10pm.

Immediately following the percussionist Evelyn Glennie's contributions to the Proms family concert (broadcast at 11.30am), Brian Beattie presents a curious programme about a phenomenon which, if unchecked, could put Glennie out of business. Four astonishing impersonators demonstrate how cheeks, thighs, hands and teeth can deputise for genuine percussion instruments. Nobody attempts to mimic the xylophone, so Glennie is safe for the time being. Although Beattie sometimes has his tongue in his cheek, conjuring up a picture of primitive man drumming away on a shrunken skull with a tibia and fibula, he doesn't use his own mouth to compete with his gifted guests.

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1	WORLD SERVICE
FM Stereo, 8.00am Dave Pearce 11.30 Radio 1 Roadshow, live from the Events Arena in Reykjavik 12.50am Kevin Greening 3.00am Chris Wogan 7.00am Carnival 95 One in the Jungle 9.00am Carnival 96. The Radio 1 Rap Show 12.00am Oake Shuggs 4.00am Charlie Jordan	All times in BST. News on the hour 5.30am Europe Today 6.30 Europe Today 7.15am Soundbite 7.30 Andy Kershaw 8.15am Off the Shelf: Washington Square (6/10) 8.30 The Vintage Chart Show 9.15 20/20 10.00am News Through Stained Glass 10.05am Business 10.15 Anything Goes 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.30 BBC English 11.45 Off the Shelf: Washington Square (6/10) 12.20am Con- vuls 1.15am Britain Today 1.30am Andy Kershaw 3.05am Outlook 3.30am John Peel 4.05am Sports Roundup 4.15am BBC English 4.30am News in German 6.30am Business 6.45am Britain Today 6.10 World Today 6.25am Take Five 6.30am News in German 7.30am Brain of Britain 9.01am Outlook 9.25 Words of Faith 9.30am Multitrack: 18 List 10.05am Business 10.15am Britain Today 10.30am Legal Rights, Legal Wrongs 10.45 The World of Computers 11.30am World Today 11.45 Sports Roundup 12.00am Take Five 12.15am Record News 12.20am Multitrack: 18 List 1.30am Global Concepts 1.45am Britain Today 2.30am Outlook 2.55 Words of Faith 3.30am Multitrack: 4.15 Sports Roundup 4.30am Europe Today
RADIO 2	CLASSIC FM
FM Stereo, 8.00am Sarah Kennedy 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.30am Ken Bruce 11.30am Jimmy Young 1.30pm Debbie Thrower 3.00pm Ed Stewart 5.00pm Helen Sharman 7.00pm Steve Wright at the Movies 7.30pm I Wanna Be Around 8.30pm Big Band Special 9.00pm Tony Bennett in Concert A concert recorded as part of the singer's 70th birthday celebrations 10.30pm The Jazzmen 12.00amam Steve Maddison 3.00am Alex Lester	4.00am Mark Griffiths 7.00am Mike Read 10.00am Richard Baines 11.00am Seaside 1.00pm A Question of Classics. See Choice 2.00pm Jane Marple 5.00pm The Royal Philharmonic Or- chestra 5.30pm Golden Years 7.00pm Celebrity Choice. Winston Churchill 8.00pm Evening Concert. Strauss (Festive Pre- lude); Mozart (Piano Concerto No 20 in G minor); Paganini (Violin Concerto No 1 in G); Schubert (Mass in C) 10.00pm St. of the Best 12.00am Mel Cooper
RADIO 5 LIVE	VIRGIN RADIO
5.00am Morning Reports, incl 5.45 Wake Up to Money 6.00am The Breakfast Programme incl at 6.55, 7.55am evening preview 8.35 The Magazine, with Clara Maddi, incl 10.35am News from Europe 11.35am Dirty News Special 12.00am Midday with Neil, incl 12.55pm Moneytalk 1.55pm Rugby League Superleague 4.00pm Nationwide, incl at 5.45 Entertainment News 7.00pm News, Extra, incl at 7.20pm Sports Bulletin 7.30pm Games that Changed Football. Leeds United v West Bromwich Albion in 1971 8.00pm The Monday Match: Leeds United v Winsto- n 10.05am My Kind of Radio 10.30am 5 Live at the Top 11.00pm Night 12.00am The Other Side of Midnight 2.05am All Night	6.00am Russ 'n' Jono 9.00am Richard Sinner 12.00am Graham Dene 4.00pm Nicky Home 7.00pm Paul Finn 10.00am Robin Barker (AM) 10.00am Mark Forrest 2.00am Randal Lee Rose
TALK RADIO	RADIO 3
6.30am Paul Ross 10.00am Scott Chis- holm 1.00pm Anna Reabum 3.00pm Torry Boyd 5.00pm Peter Daeley 7.00pm Sports Zone 10.00am James White 1.00pm Ian Collins	6.00am On Air, Haydn (String Quartet in C, Op 33 No 3, The Bird); Telemann (Trio Sonata in G minor, Essential Music); Brahms (Lamentation); Chausson (La colline, Serenade Intime; La chance); Falla, arr. Sarmazouh (Two Dances, La viva breve); Bach, Inanna Buzoni (Prelude and Fugue in D, BWV532) 9.00am Morning Collection, with Calvin Young, includes Bach (Carmen Suite No 1); Byrd (Mass for three voices); Janacek (Taras Bulba) 10.00am Composer of the Week: Brahms 11.00am Billy Meyer, piano (2/2) 11.30am BBC Proms 1996, Live from the Albert Hall Evelyn Glennie, percussion, BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, under Jerzy Kuderski: Walton (Overture: Portsmouth Point); Prokofiev (Suite: Lieutenant Kijé); Horn (Reaching Out) 12.10pm Composed on the Body. See Choice 12.30 Proms Part 2 Geoffrey Burgon (City Adventures); Copland (Four Dances Episodes, Rodeo) 1.40am Children's Corner Recordings of Debussy playing his own work 2.30am Proms Chamber Music 1996. The Gould Piano Trio, Mendelssohn (Piano Trio No 2 in C minor, Op 66); Clara Schumann (Piano Trio in G minor, Op 17) 3.45am Voices. John Burnside explores songs about song includes works by Ives, Ottaviani, Schumann, Flanders and Swann, Fauré and Rachmaninov
RADIO 4	
5.55am Shipping (LW only) 6.00am News Briefing 6.10am Farming Today 6.25am Prayer for the Day 6.30am Today and 7.25am 8.25am Sports News 7.45am Thought for the Day 8.40am Beyond a Boundary, by C.L.R. James (1/5) 8.55am Weather 9.00am News 9.06am North of Wattford. Sean Rafferty and guests discuss the heritage business (5/5) 10.00am News; Big Bang. In the last programme of the scientific series, Jez Nelson reports on seismic plants 10.00am Daily Service (LW) 10.15am On This Day (LW) 10.30am Woman's Hour 10.50am Test Match Special: England v Pakistan (LW). The final day from the Oval 11.30am Freshwaters. The life of an artist's model 12.00am News; You and Yours, with Dylan Wriator 12.25pm Brain of Britain 1996 12.55am Weather 1.00am The World at One, presented by Nick Clarke 1.40am The Archers (1) 1.55am Shipping Forecast 1.40am Test Match Special (LW) 2.00am News; The One Before the Last. Colin Firth stars as Rupert Brooke in Katherine Paterson's play about the English poet (1) 2.00am Test Match Special (LW) 3.00am The Afternoon Shift 4.00am News 4.05am Kaleidoscope. Lynne Walker sees the first full-scale opera by Scottish composer James MacMillan 4.45am Story: Holiday Memory, by Dylan Thomas Read by Stan Probert 5.00pm PM 5.50am Shipping Forecast 5.55am Weather	5.00am Test Match Special (LW) 6.00am News 6.30am News Quiz. A new series of the lighthearted current affairs quiz chaired by Simon Hoggart. With regulars Jeremy Hardy and Times columnist Alan Coren and guests Miles Kingston and Sandra Toksvig (1) 7.00am News 7.05am The Archers 7.20am Over the Counter. Oliver Wilton takes tea and cakes with Meg Rivers (1/4) (1) 7.45am The Monday Play. Song of a Bluefoot Man. A drama inspired by the poetry of James Bryce, adapted by Simon Pomeroy and James Barry, starring Oscar James. With Adjoa Andoh, Claire Benedict and Andrew Branch 9.15am Uncle Mort's Cat's Fringe. The first of five episodes concluding Carter Brandon's epic journey through Wales, accompanied by his Uncle Mort. With Stephen Thorne and Sam Kelly. Narrated by Christian Rivers (1) 9.30am Kaleidoscope (1) 9.55am Weather 10.00am The World Tonight, with Isabel Hilton 10.45am Book at Bedtime. Enigma. Samuel West begins reading Robert Harris's thriller (1/12) 11.00am No Illusions. Francine Stock presents a discussion programme focusing on science, technology and democracy (4/5) 12.00am News and 12.27am Weather 12.30am The Late Book. Slaughterhouse-Five, by Kurt Vonnegut. Read by Bob Sherman (5/10) (1) 12.45am Shipping Forecast 1.00am World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-92.0. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.8. LW 198: MW 188 (12.45-6.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8: MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO. UK, MW 1053, 1088. Television Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McManera.

An exhilarating ride, worth holding on for

This weekend's two-part drama *The Bite* (BBC1) is like a fairground ride: it starts off slowly, chugging up a gentle gradient, and then suddenly, just as you begin to think glumly how much ice-cream you could have bought with the same money, it veers off into the perpendicular and never looks back. This false promise of boredom was a bit dangerous, because in the first half-hour (during which I dozed peacefully), I nearly switched off. But the funny set-up was defensible, in the end. For the story to work, nice English Lesley Manville and her Australian daredevil diver husband Hugo Weaving (Sam Neill lookalike) had to be innocents abroad in Burma, with business problems and a new marriage straining at the seams. They were then ready for their adventure — an adventure in which even a daredevil diver would feel out of his depth.

So, suddenly, it was all about this nice, mousey couple (Jack and Ellie) helping the Australian police to nail an evil drug smuggler of impossible chic — raven-haired Samira Nazir, all gold accessories and scarlet sheen, played with considerable panache by Pamela Rabe. "Da-a-ling," she drawled attractively at these little people. The transparency of Samira's wickedness was one of the reasons the first half-hour was so tiresome. "That's very nice of you!" exclaimed wide-eyed Ellie. Or "You have a beautiful home!" Meanwhile, imaginary dalmatian puppies in red collars nipped at Cruella's (mean Samira's) ankles, signalling wildly to the viewer that this woman had family connections in the animation business.

But, as I mentioned earlier, once the plot started cooking, it was a four-ring job. That some time on Sunday night Jack and Ellie would find themselves escapes from an

Australian witness protection scheme afloat off Fowey, harpooning Keith Allen's foe — well, who could have predicted that? Terry Johnson's script was never interesting to listen to ("I shall come straight to the point"), but he invented some excellent dramatic situations, in particular the horrible "safe house" which Jack and Ellie occupied ("Those blokes!") while Ellie cried into her pillow; and a great scene at Samira's dinner table when Jack's bugging device beeped. As for the harpoon. I loved it. By this point, I even believed Ellie would use it, too.

Alternative fare on BBC2 on both nights was the two-part *Bookmark* on H.G. Wells (BBC2), which was less attractive, obviously, than the pooon-and-water-death kind of way, but was in other ways quite fabulous. For one thing, it was exceptionally beautiful. Instead of

REVIEW



Lynne Truss

playing poker to kill time between talking heads, the photographers on this project (Tony Miller and Allen Guilford) had buffed up their polarising filters and got cracking: they filmed rain clouds reflected in shiny windows, red water-birds preening against yellow ripples, a dormant fountain in a dawn-grey Trafalgar Square dancing into life. Sometimes Michael Foot lurched into shot with his dog, but he was

properly photogenic — got up in an outfit specially co-ordinated in brilliant red.

I had specific fears for this *Bookmark*: that since Foot was the presenter, this might be a white-wash job, ignoring the trickier issues (such as Wells's eugenics) which Foot prefers to wave aside. But in fact the discussion was as multicoloured as the photography, and Foot's fierce advocacy of his hero (as a socialist genius) was cleverly handled by director Sharon Maguire — undermined directly by a couple of times by other critics, or challenged on screen by Foot's own wife, Jill Craigie, when the couple good-naturedly discussed Wells together in a restaurant. (The restaurant was Leon's Quo Vadis, incidentally — a small detail repeatedly hammered home for no good reason.)

Just one thing nagged about this critical account of Wells's global ideas, and this candid account of his love life. Somewhere along the line, he must have sat down and written books, surely? People must have bought his work in large numbers, making him rich and famous? The burgeoning of the reading public around 1900 is a phenomenon of interest. Yet somehow Wells went from humble potboiler to "the most-read author in the world" in a matter of seconds. It sounded so easy. It made you wonder: can anybody do it?

Women got a pretty bad deal from Wells, it turned out. "Casualties" was how one of the biographers described them: after their liaisons with Wells they were walking wounded, with splints. What with poor Ellie frightened out of her life in *The Bite*, too (still not sure what the title means, incidentally), sort-of rounded things off to watch last night's *The Carpenters*: Yesterday Once More (BBC1), to see

why Karen Carpenter, of the famous 1970s brother-and-sister pop duo, was the one who copped it. Karen died in 1983, after suffering from anorexia. Richard, her brother, survived. Both had used dental floss to evident benefit. So what on earth went wrong? Well, according to the people who know her success story, Karen. Unfortunately, however, her circle of acquaintance virtually stopped at her mother, her brother and the woman who ran the fanclub — none of them in a position to be objective, and most concerned not to blame themselves. Joanna Bailey (producer) responded cleverly to this challenge by highlighting official denial — getting a California blonde to recite upbeat club propaganda. But at the end, Karen's death was still as mysterious as ever. John Denver was the only person to hang his head for not helping more. Bless him for that, anyway.

BBC1

- 7.00am News (Ceeleak) (6631317)
 7.10 Opus and Bill (r) (7036978) 7.30 Young People's Specials (r) (39152) 8.00 News (Ceeleak) and weather (1273862)
 8.10 Smurfs' Adventures (5086336) 8.30 To Be... (r) (7540065) 9.00 News (Ceeleak) (9773879) 9.05 Golden Man (r) (2533220) 9.25 Stuart (r) (Ceeleak) (7165339) 9.50 Dilly the Dino-saur (r) (3767404) 10.00 Playdays (7704084) 10.25 David Copperfield (8251220) 11.55 Cartoon (3521572) 12.05pm Alphabet Game (4464538)
 12.35 Neighbours (Ceeleak) (s) (6295442)
 1.00 News (Ceeleak) and weather (4559959)
 1.10 Regional News and weather (24545713)
 1.15 The Making of The Hunchback of Notre Dame (5802442)
 1.40 Cartoon (45582794)
 1.50 Wildlife on One (3690288)
 2.40 Sunday Times (2931607)
 3.20 FILM: Grease (1978). Pseudo-rock musical, with John Travolta and Olivia Newton-John as 1950s high-school students. Directed by Randal Kleser (86299133)
 5.05 Multi-coloured Saturdays. Celebrating 20 years of Saturday morning children's programmes (3761201)
 5.55 Neighbours (r) (Ceeleak) (s) (112930)
 6.00 News (Ceeleak) and weather (581607)
 6.35 Regional News (805046)
 6.50 FILM: Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom (1984). Harrison Ford stars as the intrepid archaeologist and explorer Indiana Jones who comes under threat from an ancient evil when he arrives in India and is asked to locate the sacred Sankara stone, whose theft has doomed a village to famine and misery. Also with Ke Huy Quan and Kate Capshaw. Directed by Steven Spielberg (s) (Ceeleak) (47230201)
 8.30 EastEnders. A trip to Blackpool turns out to be more than just a holiday for Tony and Dan (Ceeleak) (s) (5862)
 9.00 Roger Roger. Comedy pilot about a group of minicab drivers. With Neil Morrissey, Robert Davis and Lesley Vickerage (s) (7171)
 10.00 Out of the Blue. Tommy Del, Bruce and Lew are determined to be a drugs dealer to justice (s) (Ceeleak) (529997)
 10.50 News and Weather (Ceeleak) (583133)
 11.10 Match of the Seventies. Dennis Waterman introduces the series which mixes classic football action from the 1970s with gossip and pop music of the time. Tonight, the story of the 1979-80 season (Ceeleak) (s) (173881)
 11.50 Cricket — Third Test: England v Pakistan. Highlights of the final day's play from the Oval (343713)
 12.30 FILM: Whatever Happened to Baby Jane? (1962) with Bette Davis and Joan Crawford. A camp, old classic. Former stars Jane and Blanche Hudson live alone in a decaying Hollywood mansion, confined to a wheelchair, Blanche finds herself completely at the mercy of her frequently drunk and increasingly demented and sadistic sister, Jane. Directed by Robert Aldrich (80380006)
 2.40am Weather (582802)

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For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday SKY ONE

- 7.00am Under (5917) 9.00 Press Your Luck (4503717) 9.30 Live Connection (1232629) 9.45 Open Window (272088) 10.40 Jeopardy! (591578) 11.10 Sally Jessy Raphael (591538) 12.00a Go Go (59221) 1.00pm Designing Women (8084) 2.00 Miracles and Other Wonders (8535) 3.00 Court TV (1447) 3.30 Oprah Winfrey (523442) 4.15 Under (15769) 5.00 Quantum Leap (2794) 6.00 Beverly Hills 90210 (591538) 6.30 Star Trek: The Next Generation (591538) 7.00 Star Trek: Voyager (591538) 7.30 Star Trek: Voyager (591538) 8.00 Star Trek: Voyager (591538) 8.30 Star Trek: Voyager (591538) 9.00 Star Trek: Voyager (591538) 9.30 Star Trek: Voyager (591538) 10.00 Star Trek: Voyager (591538) 10.30 Star Trek: Voyager (591538) 11.00 Star Trek: Voyager (591538) 11.30 Star Trek: Voyager (591538) 12.00 Star Trek: Voyager (591538) 12.30 Star Trek: Voyager (591538) 1.00 Star Trek: Voyager (591538) 1.30 Star Trek: Voyager (591538) 2.00 Star Trek: Voyager (591538) 2.30 Star Trek: Voyager (591538) 3.00 Star Trek: Voyager (591538) 3.30 Star Trek: Voyager (591538) 4.00 Star Trek: Voyager (591538) 4.30 Star Trek: Voyager (591538) 5.00 Star Trek: Voyager 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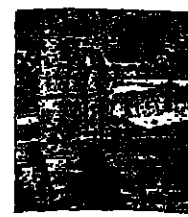
TRUE BLUE 38

Oxford opens school for industrial elite

BUSINESS

HOME TRUTHS 38

Builders find prime spots are no-go areas



MONDAY AUGUST 26 1996

BUSINESS EDITOR LINDSAY COOK

Bass regains market lead in £200m deal

BY MARTIN BARROW

BASS yesterday regained its position as Britain's biggest brewer with the £200 million purchase of Allied Domeq's 50 per cent interest in Carlsberg-Tetley.

The deal clears the way for the merger of Bass's brewing business and Carlsberg-Tetley, creating a new giant in the industry, with a market share of at least 35 per cent, ahead of Scottish Courage's 31 per cent.

The merger brings under common ownership some of the UK's biggest brands, including Tetley Bitter, Carling Black

Label, Bass, Carlsberg, Castlemaine XXXX and Tennent's.

The combined business will have 14 breweries across the UK and will initially employ 8,000 people. However, job losses are inevitable, with Bass seeking annual cost savings of about £90 million a year within three years. The company said yesterday, however, that it would continue to operate all breweries except Warrington, Cheshire, whose closure has already been announced by Carlsberg-Tetley.

Sir Ian Prosser, the Bass

chairman, said: "Brewers continue to face a whole range of competitive pressures on wholesale volumes, prices and margins and it is these pressures that are forcing consolidation. This transaction provides Bass with the opportunity to respond positively to market trends by increasing our own competitiveness."

The deal, signed yesterday after 15 months of negotiation, requires Office of Fair Trading consent, and a long inquiry is certain.

Bass has put in place provisions in case the merger is allowed only on terms that it considers unsatisfactory. If completion is not possible within 16 months, Bass will have the option to put on to Carlsberg, for £110 million, all the interests acquired from Allied Domeq, which, in turn, will reimburse Bass £30 million. In this event, Bass would suffer a shortfall of about £80 million, although this would be partly offset by the 50 per cent share of all profits earned by Carlsberg-Tetley that Bass will receive until the merger is completed.

Sir Ian said that discussions had taken place with the OFT before yesterday's announcement. "Now that it is in the public domain, we will address any specific concerns the regulatory authorities may have," he said.

Bass will have management control of the business. Carlsberg, the Danish brewing group, will contribute its interest in Carlsberg-Tetley and £20 million in cash for a 20 per cent interest in the enlarged Bass Brewers. Bass will continue to supply Allied Domeq Retailing until December 1997 under the existing agreement between Allied and Carlsberg.

Bass's first aim will be to restore margins at Carlsberg-Tetley, which has underperformed in the intensely competitive beer market. The existing brewing business of Bass is about 20 per cent more efficient than Carlsberg-Tetley.

Allied, which regrets not withdrawing from brewing earlier, will incur a loss of £320 million from the sale, allowing for goodwill and other costs.



Time is running out, but David Rowland is confident before the Lloyd's Wednesday deadline

Lloyd's fights US court threat to £3.2bn rescue

BY OLIVER AUGUST

LLOYD'S of London is appealing against a US court ruling that threatens its £3.2 billion recovery plan. The dispute may go to the US Supreme Court.

Lloyd's will tomorrow seek to overturn a ruling by a Virginia court in favour of 93 American names whose demand for more information about the insurance market's reconstruction proposals could delay recovery for years.

In an advertisement to be placed in *The Times*, Lloyd's says that 75 per cent of the 34,000 names worldwide have already accepted the plan before the deadline of midday on Wednesday.

David Rowland, chairman, said: "I am confident that, by the deadline, the offer will have been accepted by the overwhelming majority of our members."

However, if Lloyd's appeal fails and a significant number of names reject the plan, Lloyd's risks failing a Department of Trade and Industry insolvency test at the end of this month, which could spell the end of the 308-year-old insurance market.

Yesterday, the DTI said that Lloyd's had to pass the test "as soon as practicable" after August 28, but that it was at its discretion to give Lloyd's a three-month extension.

Lloyd's must also file its accounts with the New York insurance regulator by September 1 and with the US Treasury by September 30. A Lloyd's spokesman said that

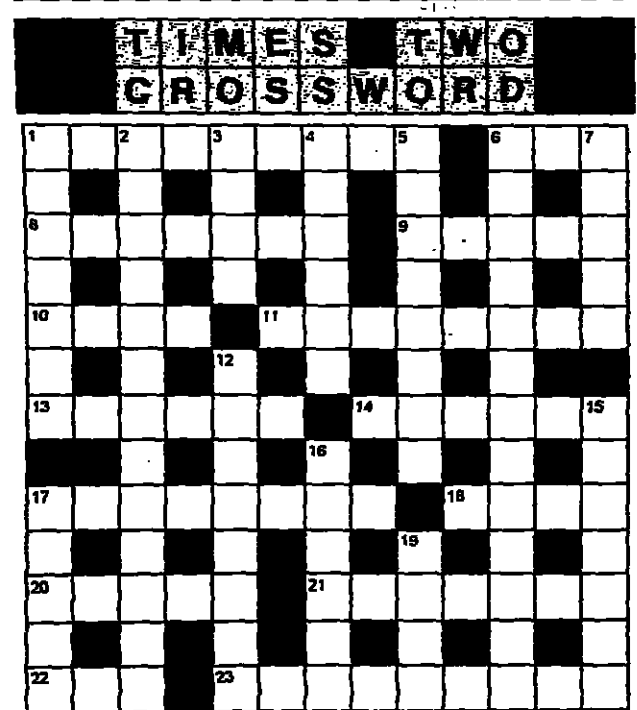
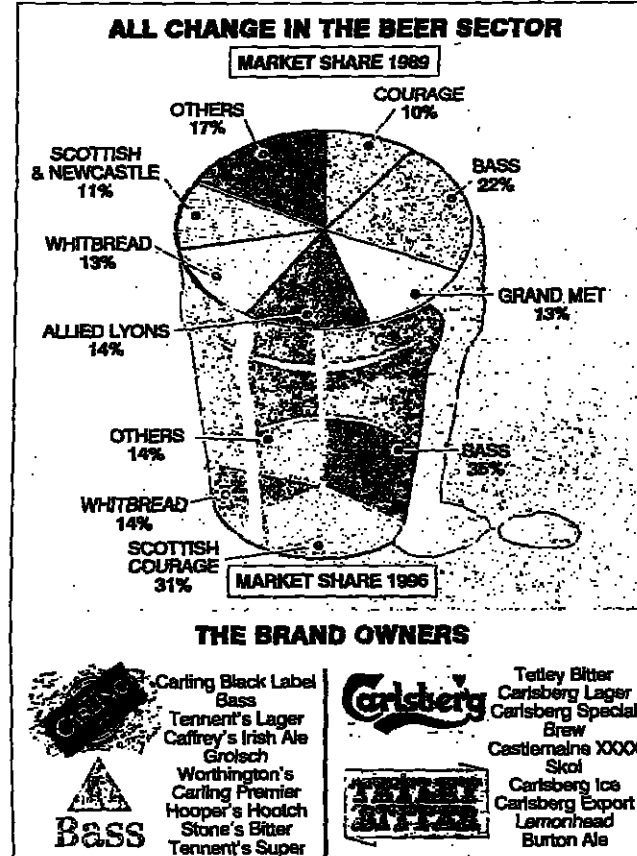
this will not be a problem. The case against Lloyd's in Virginia centres on whether US securities laws, under which a wealth of documentation has to be provided, apply to Lloyd's.

A number of previous court rulings against Lloyd's on this issue have been overturned on appeal. However, even if Lloyd's wins tomorrow's appeal, this would not automatically end the case, the Lloyd's spokesman confirmed. The 93 US names could appeal and take the case to the US Supreme Court.

Tony Welford, chairman of the UK Paying Names Action Group (PNAG), which failed in its own legal challenge to delay the plan in Britain, said the American names' demands for more information about the restructuring plan were almost identical to those of the PNAG.

He said: "I think that what everybody would like would be more time to consider the situation and... a set of audited accounts issues."

The Council of Lloyd's will meet on Thursday to assess the level of acceptance, although it may take some time to complete the final analysis. The plan involves reinsuring billions of pounds of liabilities into a new company, Equitas. Names, who backed Lloyd's with their personal assets, are expected to help to pay for Equitas, but are being offered £3.2 billion to offset this cost and end litigation.



No 870

- ACROSS**
- 1 Hack-work book (9)
 - 6 Part of fish; end of Fr. film (3)
 - 8 Clumsy (7)
 - 9 Elector (5)
 - 10 — Novello, songwriter (4)
 - 11 OT book after Ezra (8)
 - 12 Painter, esp. of red hair (6)
 - 14 Cut out (text) (6)
 - 17 Drew roughly (8)
 - 18 S-shaped moulding (4)
 - 20 Imaginary interstellar medium (5)
 - 21 Consider, assume (7)
 - 22 Admirer; cooler (3)
 - 23 Doll —, Falstaff's mistress (9)
- DOWN**
- 1 Thinker of ivory (7)
 - 2 Bravely receive (bad news) (4,2,3,4)
 - 3 Squashed circle (4)
 - 4 Portable steps (6)
 - 5 Writer of criticism (8)
 - 6 Exactly match, suit (3,4,1,5)
 - 7 Where compass needle points (5)
 - 12 Card gambling game (8)
 - 15 Basic component: elec. heater unit (7)
 - 16 Old name for Iran (6)
 - 17 Bundle of corn (5)
 - 19 Animals; copies (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 869

ACROSS: 1 Rubicon 5 Sioe 9 Basin 10 Unheard 11 Cost fan tune 12 Donkey 13 Swipes 16 Count the days 19 Rampage

DOWN: 1 Rube 2 Bassoon 3 Confidential 4 Nougat 6 Least 7 Endless 8 White wedding 12 Decorum 14 Payment 15 Shrewd 17 Unman 18 Sir

SOLUTION TO SUMMER HOLIDAY JUMBO

ACROSS: 1 Old Uncle Tom Cobbleigh and all 15 Enlightenment 16 Irreplaceable 17 On the tip of one's tongue 18 Usurer 20 Dog's tooth 21 Away 22 Dressed up to the nines 23 Liberal 24 Wears one's heart on one's sleeve 25 Youthful 26 Genius 27 Oceanic 28 Chain mail 29 Anon 30 Much Ado About Nothing 31 Shindig 32 Possible 35 Irrupted 37 Free 39 Toppick 41 Prescribe 42 Prow 44 Identity 46 Felucca 49 Sexy 50 Service flat 52 Amun 53 Crub Street 56 Dress down 58 Fight out 60 Morpheus 63 Tussock 64 Ghotei 67 Lasso 68 Noose 69 Eland 70 Ogami

DOWN: 1 One good turn deserves another 2 Delit 3 Neglect 4 Lathi 5 Ten to three 6 Mnemonic 7 Out 8 Bull-up area 9 Erroneous 10 Gypsum 11 Away 12 Dressed up to the nines 13 Liberal 24 Wears one's heart on one's sleeve 19 Youthful 21 Genius 27 Oceanic 28 Chain mail 29 Anon 30 Much Ado About Nothing 31 Shindig 32 Possible 35 Irrupted 37 Free 39 Toppick 41 Prescribe 42 Prow 44 Identity 46 Felucca 49 Sexy 50 Service flat 52 Amun 53 Crub Street 56 Dress down 58 Fight out 60 Morpheus 63 Tussock 64 Ghotei 67 Lasso 68 Noose 69 Eland 70 Ogami

OFT split over travel operators inquiry

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY

A SPLIT has emerged within the Office of Fair Trading over whether travel companies should be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission because of alleged anti-competitive behaviour.

The OFT is looking into the way package holidays are sold in the UK by tour operators through travel agency chains, they own. Some operators also run their own charter

airlines. Consumer groups have claimed that the public is often unaware of the connection between the travel shop and the parent tour operator.

Independent tour operators complain that they are being squeezed out of the market by the big three operators: Thomson, Airtrips and First Choice, which control 65 per cent of the industry.

The OFT has also looked at

the way agents sell travel insurance on which they can charge up to 40 per cent commission.

The inquiry was expected to last for about six months. However, it has dragged on for a year, with no apparent end in sight.

The OFT, whose Director-General is John Bridgeman, had originally believed the issue of vertical integration

could be resolved without a referral to the MMC. However, last month the OFT changed its mind and tour operators have been asked to provide further information. Industry observers believe the odds on a referral are 50-50.

The legal departments of Thomson, the UK's largest tour operator, which owns Lunn Poly, the largest travel agency, and its rival Airtrips,

which owns the Going Places travel shops, have been drawn into exploratory discussions with the OFT that are designed to avert a referral to the MMC.

The talks are aimed at securing legal undertakings from both companies, but the negotiations are so sensitive that neither company has been willing to comment publicly on any progress.

Gehe and UniChem resume the chase

BY MARTIN BARROW

RIVAL takeover bids for Lloyd's Chemist, Britain's second biggest retail chemist after Boots, are set to resume this week after Lloyds confirmed it had secured buyers for its wholesaling business.

Both Gehe, a German company, and Britain's UniChem have been told by the Department of Trade and Industry they are free to acquire Lloyds provided they find buyers for the wholesaling business by October 18.

But Lloyds, whose chairman is Allen Lloyd, has taken the matter into its own hands. Yesterday it announced it has forwarded signed heads of terms to UniChem and Gehe, allowing the bidders to satisfy the conditions laid down by Ian Lang, the President of the Board of Trade.

Lloyds said it had received "numerous" offers from prospective buyers of the wholesaling business, which has depots at Cambridge, Carlisle, Colindale, Derby, Glasgow

York and Belfast. The condition was imposed because of the existing interests of Gehe, which owns AAH in Britain, and UniChem.

Gehe's increased cash offer of 500p a share valued Lloyds at £650 million and matches the UniChem offer of cash and shares. UniChem has built up a 9.9 per cent interest in Lloyds. Shares in Lloyds closed at 491p on Friday.



Allen Lloyd: offers received

Land prices forecast to rise 10%

BY ALAN MURRAY

THE price of building land has begun to rise again, suggesting that the recovery in the housing market is finally filtering through to the struggling building sector.

Land prices rose 1.7 per cent in the second quarter of the year and have increased 0.8 per cent so far in 1996, according to figures from Savills, the estate agent. It predicts prices could surge in the second half to as high as 10 per cent by the year end.

The relationship between the housing market and land prices has been complicated in recent years by the increasing scarcity of new building land as tougher planning restrictions take hold.

Land prices increased 60 per cent between mid-1992 and mid-1995, while the rest of the market remained weak. Prices then fell by about 7.2 per cent until March of this year before the recovery kicked in.

Location problems, page 38

Shorts banks on \$32m jet

BY EILEEN MCCABE AND OLIVER AUGUST

SHORT BROTHERS, the Belfast aerospace company, hopes that the launch today of a luxury jet will mark a turnaround in its prospects.

The Global Express, a high-speed nine-seater with full office facilities and a conference room, is priced at \$32 million. With an order backlog of 50 aircraft, the first two years' output is already sold.

Bombardier Aerospace, Shorts' parent company, which masterminded the Global Express, expects the aircraft to go into active service in mid-1998. It will be the first private jet to fly New York to Tokyo non-stop.

Shorts developed, and is to make, the plane's horizontal stabiliser, one of the largest all-composite primary structures on commercial aircraft. It also designed the forward fuselage. The unveiling of the Global Express in Canada is a step in

Shorts' recovery after the collapse, in January, of Fokker, the Dutch aircraft maker, which had contracted work out to Shorts. Shorts has since shed almost 700 workers and 300 more are likely to go by the end of the year, cutting the workforce to 5,600.

Roy McNulty, Shorts' chairman, still hopes Fokker can sell its aircraft division, which would guarantee resumption of Fokker work in Belfast.

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